CHIAKI OGISHIMA, KAZUKI AKANE, NOBUTERU YUKI and SATELIGHT

HEAT GUY J

ヒートガイジェイ

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TOKYOPOP

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OGISHIMA, AKANE, YUKI, SATELIGHT

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Manga
Action/Sci-Fi
US $9.99
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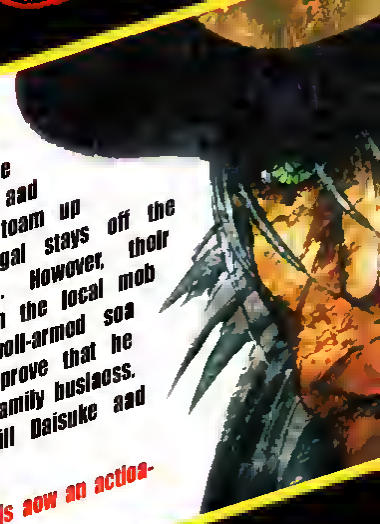

Daisuke Aurora works with the special division of peace-keepers in the city of Jewde, one of the largest cities on the planet. He and his android partner, Heat Guy J, team up to make sure that anything illegal stays off the streets and out of circulation. However, their preseace doesn't sit too well with the local mob leader—a ruthless, unbalanced, well-armed son of the late god, who is out to prove that he is not too young to take over the family business. In the city that never sleeps, will Daisuke and Heat Guy J sleep with the fishes?

The anime favorite as seen on MTV is now an action-packed manga!

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Kazuki Akane and Satelight

Character Design by
Nobuteru Yuki

Art and Story by
Chiaki Ogishima

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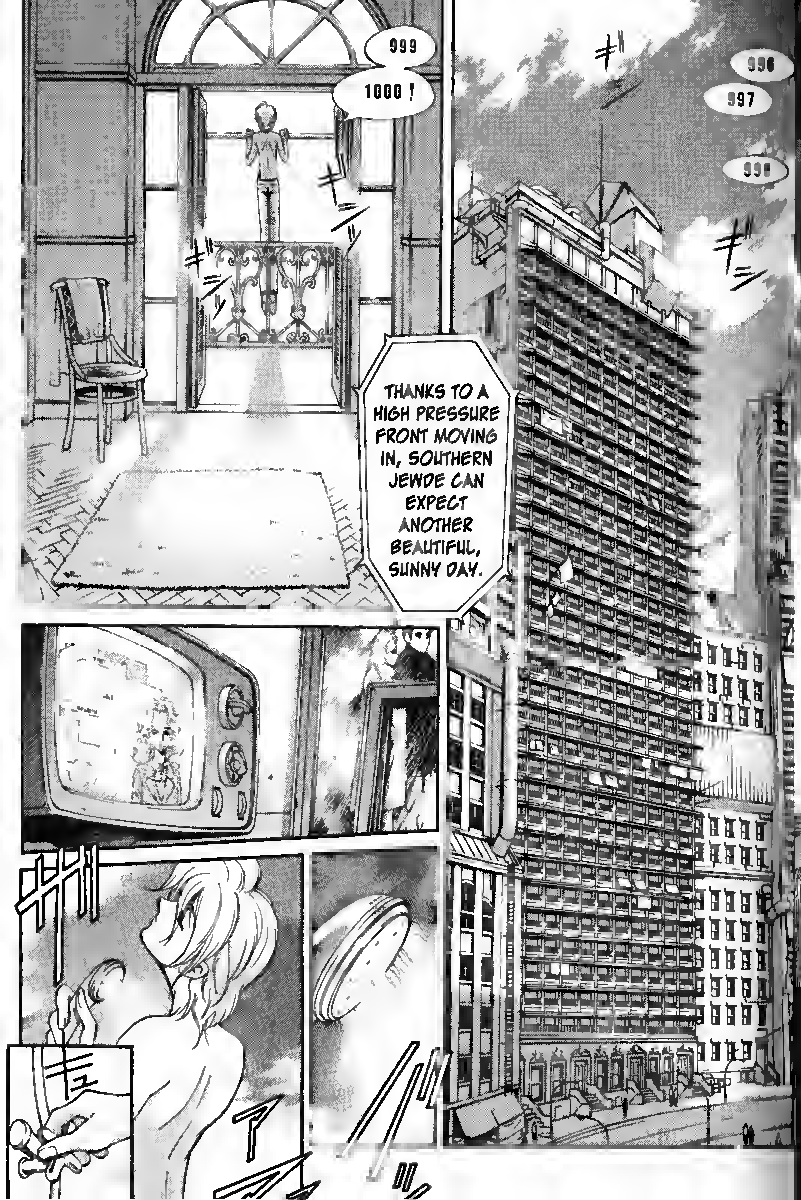
HUH?
REAL FAMILY MEN.
BLOOD, EH?
J! THAT KID...
...WHO IS HE?

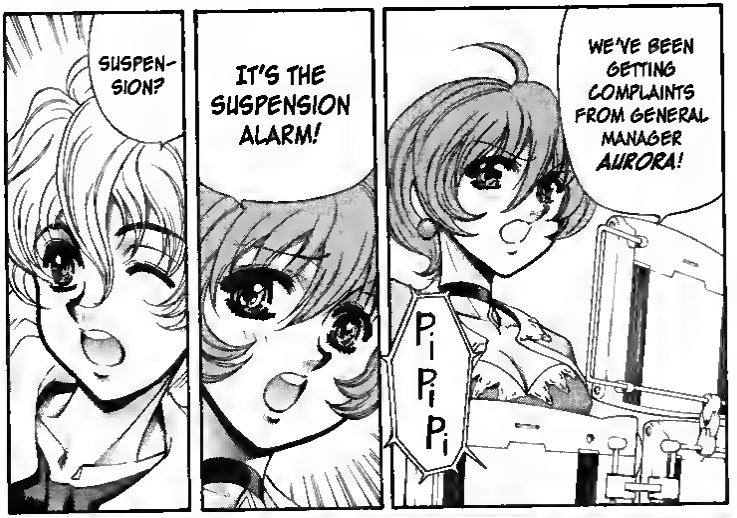
BUT FOR THE FUNERAL OF A DON IN LEONELLI'S CLASS...
...ISN'T IT A BIT SMALL?
YEAH... SAME HERE.
J... WHAT CAN YOU SEE FROM OVER THERE?
FORTY-FIVE FUNERAL ATTENDEES CONFIRMED.
THE DON'S WILL REQUESTED A FUNERAL LIMITED TO RELATIVES ONLY.
THEY CALL THOSE TIED WITH THE BOND OF UNBREAKABLE TRUST...
..."FAMILY"!

DAISUKE?!
FUNERAL WATCHING ON A BEAUTIFUL DAY LIKE THIS IS A WASTE!
DON'T GET YOUR KNICKERS IN A TWIST, WE'VE GOT LOADS OF TIME.
YOU NEED TO ASK?!
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
Pi
HIS NAME IS CLAIR LEONELLI NOKUO; AGE 19 YEARS.
THE BOY IS THE DON'S ONLY SON.
Pi Pi
STILL, WAY TOO YOUNG TO BECOME THE FAMILY'S DON, EH?
TWO YEARS YOUNGER THAN ME.
...WE'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH!
AND AS FOR WHO WILL BE THE NEW DON OF THIS TOWN...
DAISUKE AURORA!!

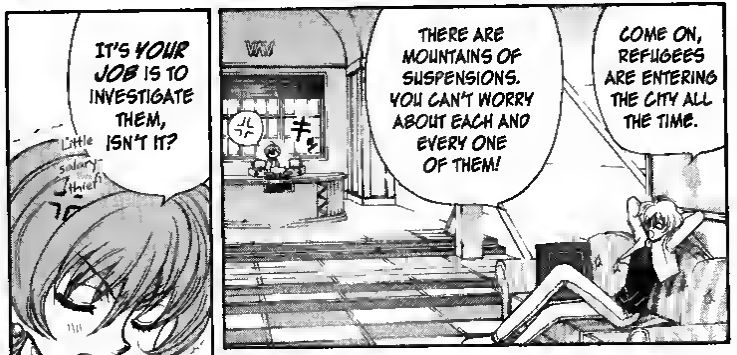

999
1000!
996
997
998
THANKS TO A HIGH PRESSURE FRONT MOVING IN, SOUTHERN JEWDE CAN EXPECT ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL, SUNNY DAY.

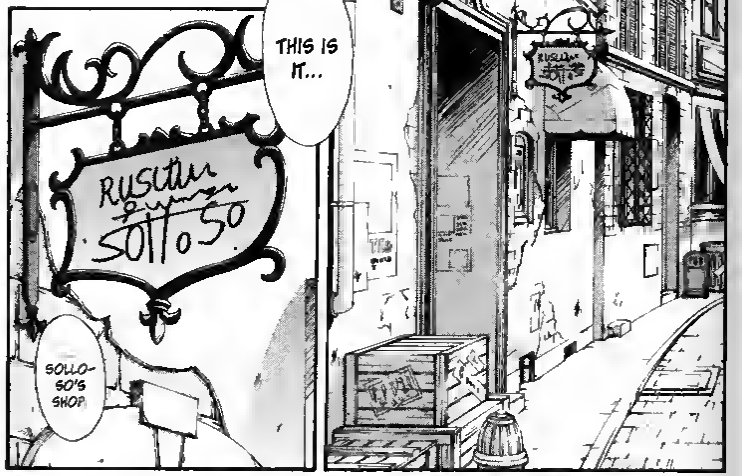
THE NAME OF THIS TOWN IS JEWDE.
JEWDE IS ONE OF SEVEN GIGANTIC CITIES ON THIS PLANET, EACH WITH ITS OWN SEPARATE GOVERNMENT.
TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN ANY OF THE SEVEN CITIES IS LIMITED TO SHIPS, AND THAT FLOW OF TRAFFIC IS DELIBERATELY KEPT TO A MINIMUM.
ALL PORTS ARE STRICTLY MONITORED TO DETECT ANY "REFUGEES." REFUGEES--THOSE WHO TRAVEL BETWEEN CITIES WITHOUT PERMISSION--ARE CONSIDERED CRIMINALS.

SPECIAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT OF SECURED CITY
DAISUKE AURORA!
YOU'RE THIRTY MINUTES LATE! AGAIN!
ARE YOU LISTENING ?!
AND YOU HAVEN'T FILED A REPORT IN OVER TWO WEEKS!!
IS THAT SO?
WELL, SIR...
...SHALL WE GO?!

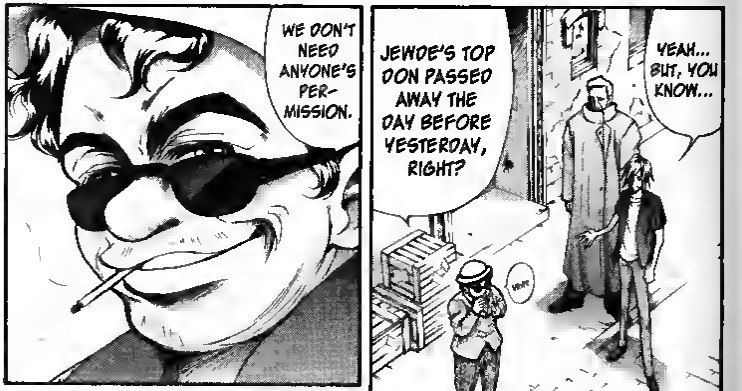

SUSPEN-SION?
IT'S THE SUSPENSION ALARM!
PiPiPi
WE'VE BEEN GETTING COMPLAINTS FROM GENERAL MANAGER AURORA!

THE MAIN OFFICE HAS ISSUED ORDERS TO INVESTIGATE.
AN ILLEGAL INTRUDER'S LANDED IN THE BAY AREA!


IT'S YOUR JOB IS TO INVESTIGATE THEM, ISN'T IT?
Little salary Thief!
THERE ARE MOUNTAINS OF SUSPENSIONS. YOU CAN'T WORRY ABOUT EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEM!
COME ON, REFUGEES ARE ENTERING THE CITY ALL THE TIME.

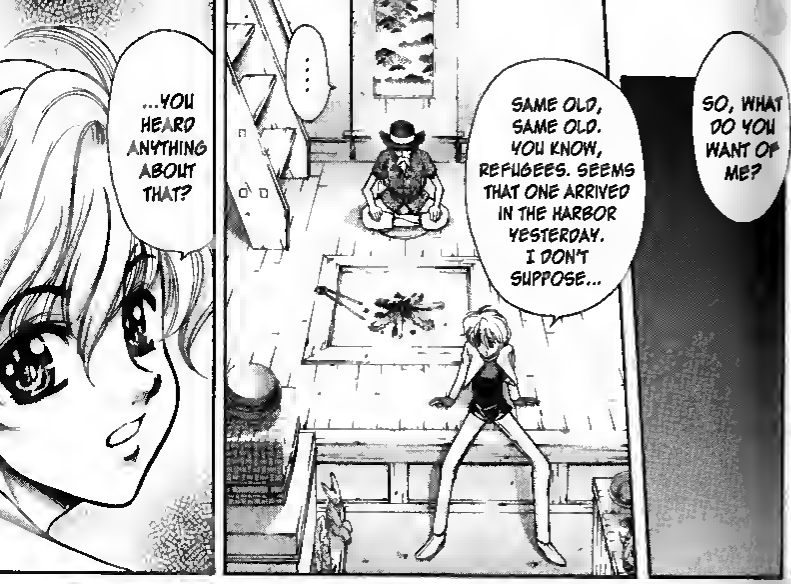

THIS IS IT...
SOLLO-SO'S SHOP

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT YET. IT WAS A LONG TRIP, SO WE'LL TAKE IT EASY FOR A WHILE.
CLOSE
WHEN DO WE MAKE CONTACT?


WE DON'T NEED ANYONE'S PER-MISSION.
JEWOE'S TOP DON PASSED AWAY THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY, RIGHT?
YEAH... BUT, YOU KNOW...

SIGN=EAST WIND

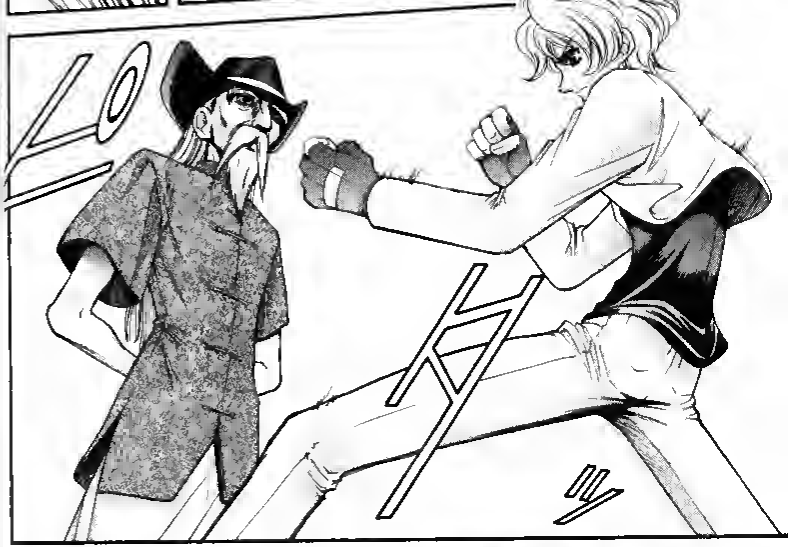
...AND YOU'RE A LITTLE NERVOUS. AM I RIGHT?
CALM DOWN, JOE. WE'RE ABOUT TO PULL OFF TWO BIG JOBS...
WELL... NO, BUT...
YEAH... THAT'S TRUE.
HEY, NEIL! YOU CAN'T SMOKE ON THE STREET!
RELAX, JOE...
...YOU THINK THE PIGS CHECK OUT PLACES LIKE THIS DURING THE DAY?

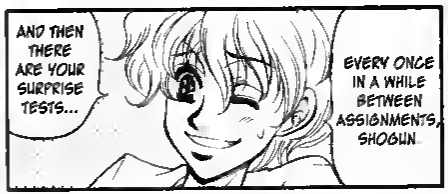

...YOU HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT THAT?
SAME OLD, SAME OLD. YOU KNOW, REFUGEES. SEEMS THAT ONE ARRIVED IN THE HARBOR YESTERDAY. I DON'T SUPPOSE...
SO, WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME?

CAME TO EAT... OR SO THEY SAY.
THREE STRANGE MEN WENT TO SOLLOSO'S SHOP...

...AT SOL-LOSO'S SHOP... EH?
REFU-GEES...

!!




AND THEN THERE ARE YOUR SURPRISE TESTS...
EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE BETWEEN ASSIGNMENTS, SHOGUN.

SO, DAISUKE, IT SEEMS YOU HAVE BEEN KEEPING UP WITH YOUR TRAINING.

RIGHT NOW IN THIS CITY, WITH DON LEONELLI DEAD...
...EVERY FAMILY'S TRYING TO GET A FOOT-HOLD.
AND SOME GUYS THINK THEY CAN DO SOME SWEET BUSINESS IN THE MEANTIME.
THAT'S TRUE, AND...
...OF THOSE IN THIS CITY, THE ONLY FAMILY WITH THAT KIND OF POWER... AND NERVE...
...IS SOLLOSO.
SOLLOSO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT ...
...CLOSED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE AFTERNOON?
IT LOOKS LIKE THERE'S NO ONE HERE.
!
A CIGARETTE?!

GET REAL! SOMEONE HAS BEEN MURDERED!!
DON'T GET ALL HOT AND BOTHERED, MISTER INSPECTOR.
IT WAS A FIGHT, WASN'T IT?

SOLLOSO!

...NOW IT'S EDMUNDO'S JOB.
THIS ASSIGNMENT ISN'T SPECIAL SERVICES ANYMORE...

HUH?!
TALK, MR. "SPECIAL SERVICE" FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF SECURED CITY!!

DON'T GET CUTE!
DO YOU REALLY THINK A GUY LIKE SOLLOSO WOULD BE MURDERED OVER JUST TOBACCO?!
OOF!

YOU DO KNOW THAT SOLLOSO WAS DEALING TOBACCO UNDER-GROUND?!
THAT'S WHAT I SAID, DIDN'T I?! A FIGHT BETWEEN GANGSTERS!

KAISUKE!! WHAT HAVE YOU STIRRED UP NOW?!
OH MY!
A MURDER?!
WHO WAS IT?

EEK!
WHA?!
LET ME THROUGH!

SO...
HEY!!
SORRY! OUTTA THE WAY!!

DON'T ACT SO FLIPPANT, YOU STUPID FOOL!
YOU KNOW THAT, DON'T YOU, INSPECTOR KEN EDMUNDO?

THE SPECIAL SERVICE'S TASK..
...IS TO INVESTIGATE LEADS BEFORE AN INCIDENT HAPPENS...

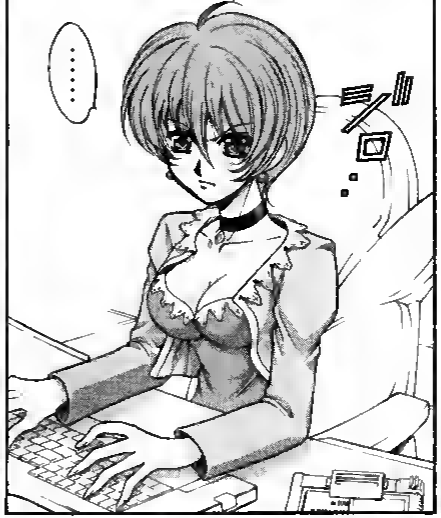
CAFE
ROAD

?!

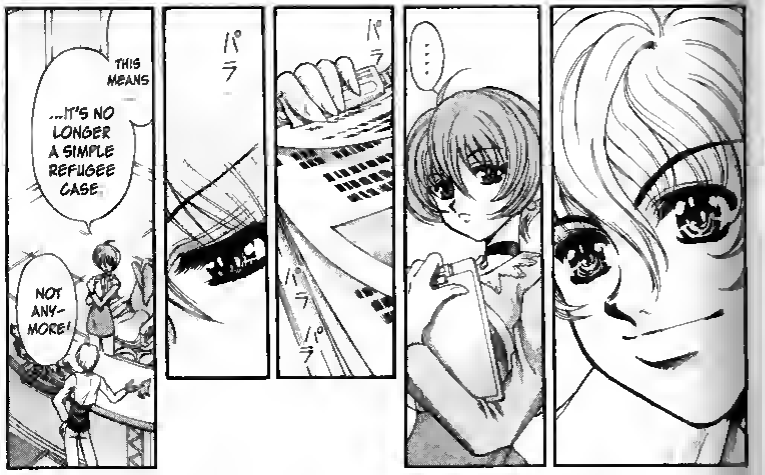
!!

LISTEN UP-- LEAVE THE SERIOUS INVESTIGATIONS TO THE POLICE, LITTLE BOY...
A SPECIAL SERVICE OF JUST THREE PEOPLE?! THAT'S KID'S STUFF!

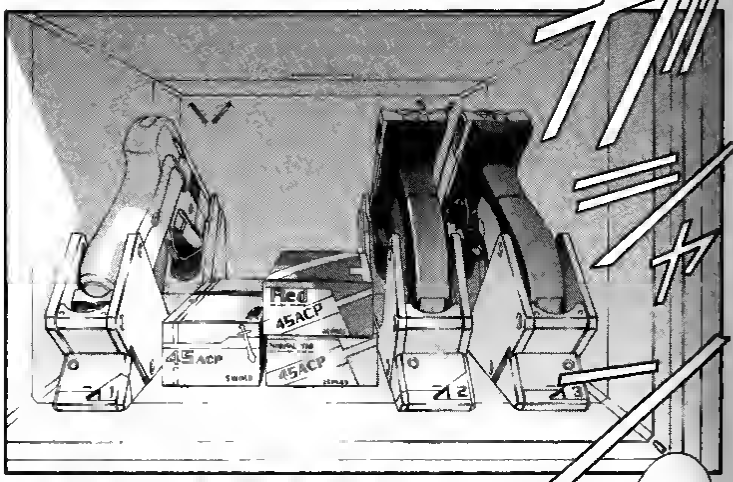
!
NOW THE BIG QUESTION--
--CAN I HAVE A GUN?


.....

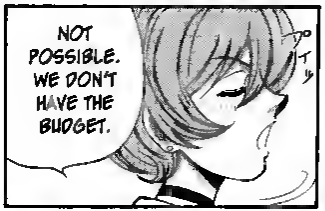
PLEASE DON'T PUT THE MURDER SCENE PICTURES ON THE VERY TOP!!
HOW MANY TIMES DO YOU INTEND TO MAKE ME SAY THIS?
I WROTE YOUR REPORT.

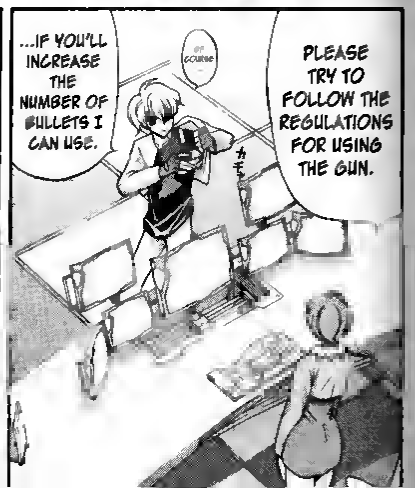

THIS MEANS
...IT'S NO LONGER A SIMPLE REFUGEE CASE.
NOT ANY-MORE!
パラ
パラ
パラパラ
...

IT'S MY DUTY AS AN AUDITOR!
OF COURSE!
FLIP
..IS PART OF YOUR JOB TOO, RIGHT, KYOKO?
BUT LOOKING AT THESE...


45ACP
45 ACP
45ACP

ONE RED TAB.
THREE GENERAL BULLETS.

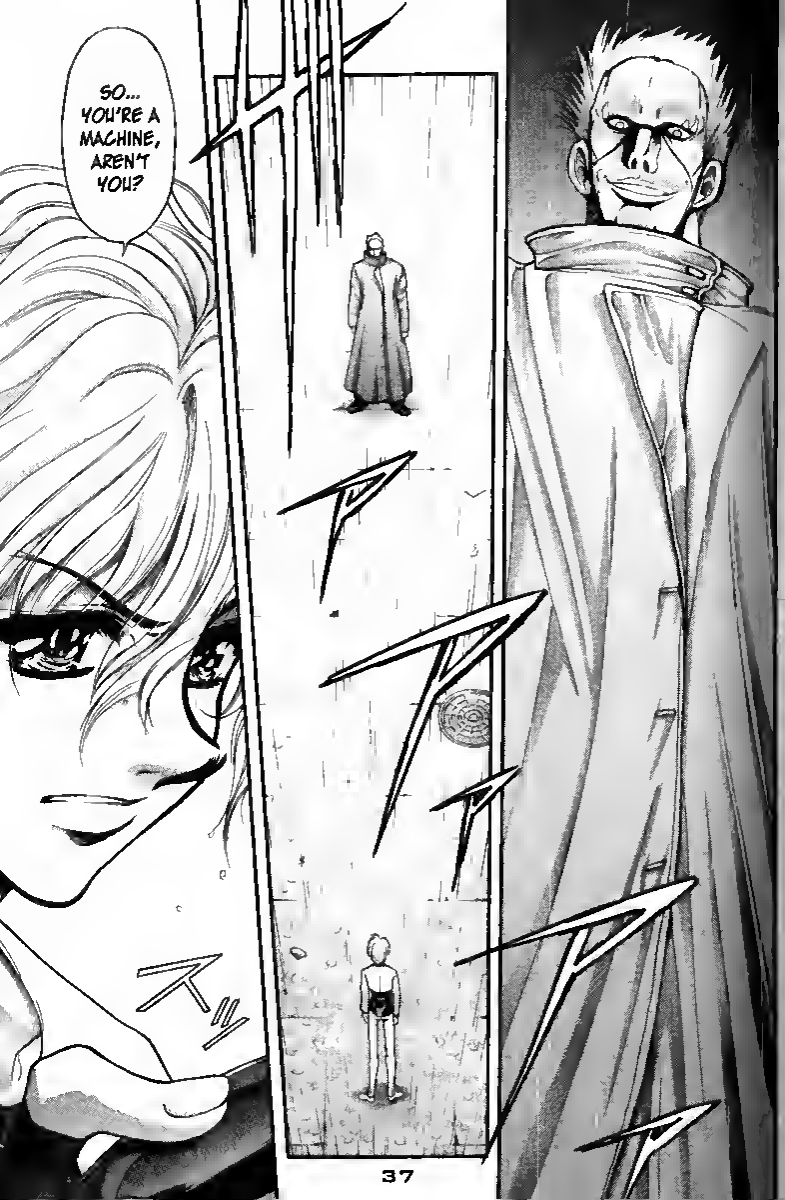

NOT POSSIBLE. WE DON'T HAVE THE BUDGET.

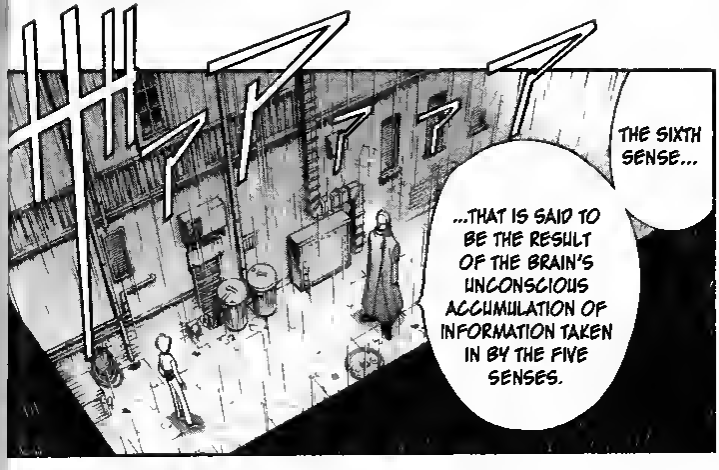

...IF YOU'LL INCREASE THE NUMBER OF BULLETS I CAN USE.
OF COURSE
PLEASE TRY TO FOLLOW THE REGULATIONS FOR USING THE GUN.

...PERMISSION TO CARRY A GUN.
DAISUKE AURORA, I HEREBY GRANT YOU...

SPECIAL SERVICE AGENT KYOKO MILCHAN. AUDITOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF SECURED CITY. I.D. CONFIRMED.
LOCK RELEASED.

YOU HAVE EVIDENCE?
... INTUI-TION.
I HAVE...
INTUI-TION...
YOU GUYS...
...DIDN'T COME TO THIS CITY JUST TO SELL CIGARETTES, DID YOU?
CAN I HELP YOU, SIR?
I BELIEVE YOU'RE WITH THE REFUGEE PARTY OF THREE.


SO... YOU'RE A MACHINE, AREN'T YOU?

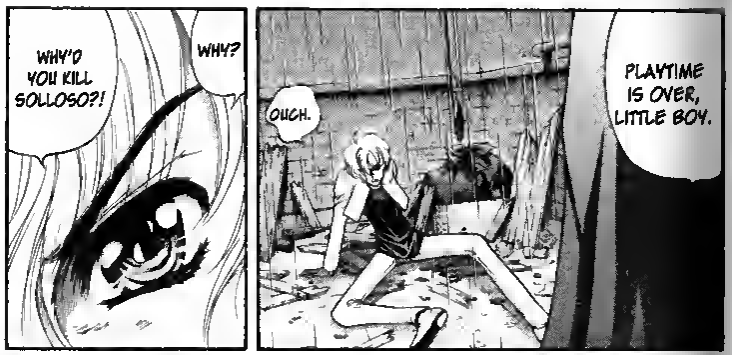

THE SIXTH SENSE...
...THAT IS SAID TO BE THE RESULT OF THE BRAIN'S UNCONSCIOUS ACCUMULATION OF INFORMATION TAKEN IN BY THE FIVE SENSES.

FUNC-TION-ALITY?
A HUMAN FUNC-TION-ALITY...
...THAT IS NOT TO BE SCORNED.

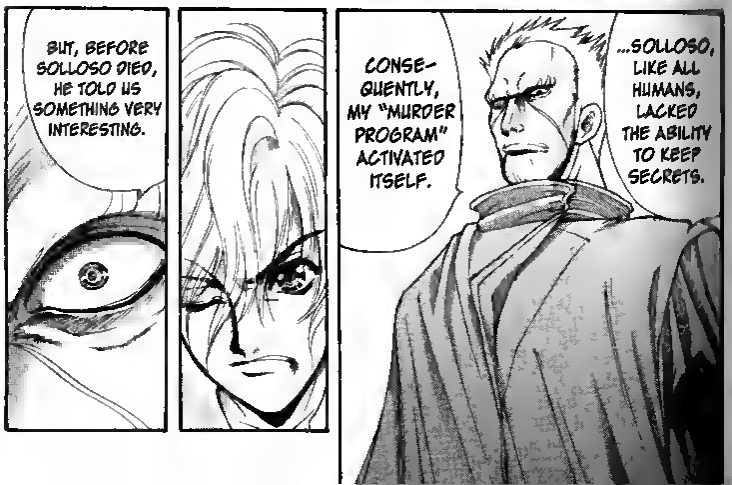
THEY CAN'T EXIST HERE...
ANDROIDS ARE ILLEGAL IN JEWDE, YOU KNOW.
!!
CAN'T?
Click
FUTILE!

I TOLD YOU! IT IS USELESS!
!!
WHAAT?!

IT HAS NO EFFECT!
...THEN SUCK ON THIS! RED TAB!
OKAY...


WHY'D YOU KILL SOLLOSO?!
WHY?
OUCH.
PLAYTIME IS OVER, LITTLE BOY.

NO. HE ACCEPTED THAT...
...BUT HE FEARED THE OTHER INVITATION WE MADE. AND ALAS...
TO BE YOUR SMUGGLING AGENT?
HE DECLINED OUR OFFER.


BUT, BEFORE SOLLOSO DIED, HE TOLD US SOMETHING VERY INTERESTING.
CONSE-QUENTLY, MY "MURDER PROGRAM" ACTIVATED ITSELF.
...SOLLOSO, LIKE ALL HUMANS, LACKED THE ABILITY TO KEEP SECRETS.

THAT WAS CLOSE, WASN'T IT?
ミシャ
ミシャ

SURE WAS...
OOF!

ABOUT SOMETHING THAT IS 230 CM HIGH. THAT WEIGHS 0.3 TONS. THAT RELEASES BLASTS OF STEAM WHEN IT EXERTS ITS MAXIMUM POWER.
IT IS AN ANDROID CALLED "HEAT GUY"...
...AND THIS MACHINE IS DEPLOYED BY THE SPECIAL SERVICE!
I ALREADY TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I?! MACHINES AREN'T ALLOWED IN THIS CITY!
WHAT? THAT RED TAG DID MORE DAMAGE THAN I THOUGHT.
LYING HUMAN.
YOU SHOULD KNOW...
...WE'RE AWARE THAT THE ANDROID MONITORS YOUR LIFE SIGNS...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!!
CALL YOUR MACHINE!! NOW!
OOF!
!!
I'VE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
...COME HERE ON HIS OWN.
...AND--SHOULD YOUR HEART STOP--HE WILL SENSE IT AND...
THEN SHALL WE TEST IT?
AAAH!
FOR THE LAST TIME...
...CALL YOUR MACHINE!!
THEN HOW ABOUT GIVING UP?
...THOUGH WE PREFER NOT TO ADD TO OUR CRIMES UNNECESSARILY.
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT THIS IS NO MERE THREAT...

WHAT?!
!
!!
...DIE!

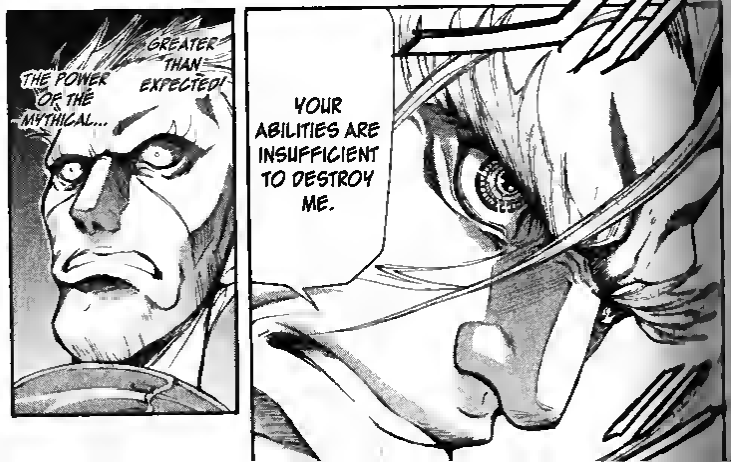
I... DON'T... WANT... TO!!
NOW YOU MUST...
YOU ARE IN A STATE IN WHICH YOU CAN NO LONGER THINK LOGICALLY.

WE HAVE NO OBLIGATION TO REPLY TO YOUR QUESTION.
...THEN WHY HAVE YOU APPEARED?!
THUS, IT WILL BE DISMISSED.
WHY... IS THIS BOY
IF THE BOY DID NOT CALL YOU...
THEREFORE, SHOULD YOU BECOME AN OBSTACLE TO OUR INVESTIGATION...
HOWEVER., A CRIMINAL MACHINE LIKE YOU DOES NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO SILENCE.
...I WILL NOT HESITATE...
...TO DESTROY YOU.

REALLY. I DIDN'T EVEN CALL YOU...
...YET YOU STILL COME AND GIVE ME A LECTURE?
THE LIKES OF YOU SHOULD BE LEFT TO RUST IN THE RAIN!
J!!
DAISUKE... A MAN SHOULD NOT CLING TO THE EARTH FOREVER.

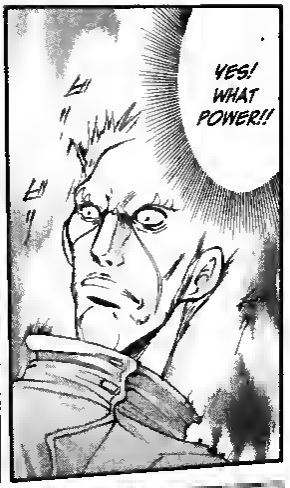
!!
COULD IT BE...
...THEIR REAL OBJECTIVE...
FOOL... YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WILL BE DESTROYED!!
...IS J?!

WHA--?!

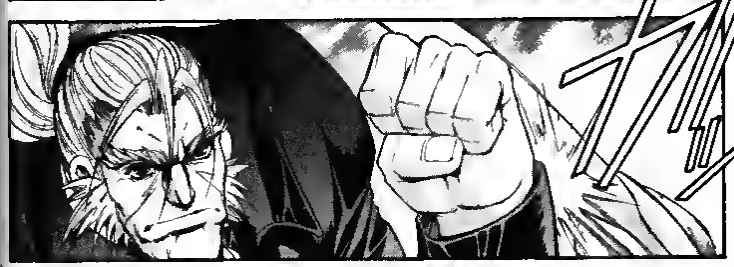

GREATER THAN EXPECTED!
THE POWER OF THE MYTHICAL...
YOUR ABILITIES ARE INSUFFICIENT TO DESTROY ME.

NOW...

SO STRONG...!

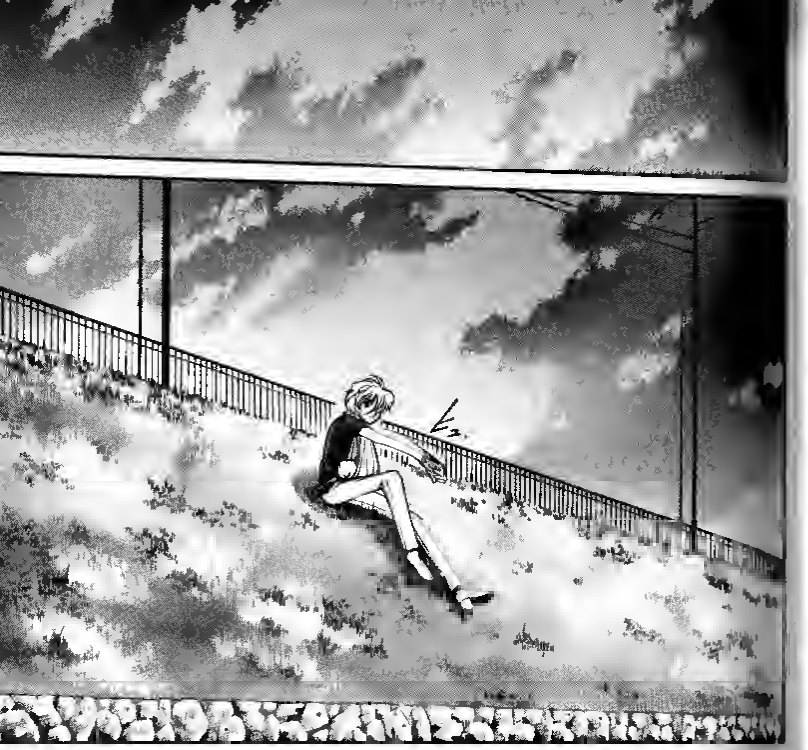

YES! WHAT POWER!!

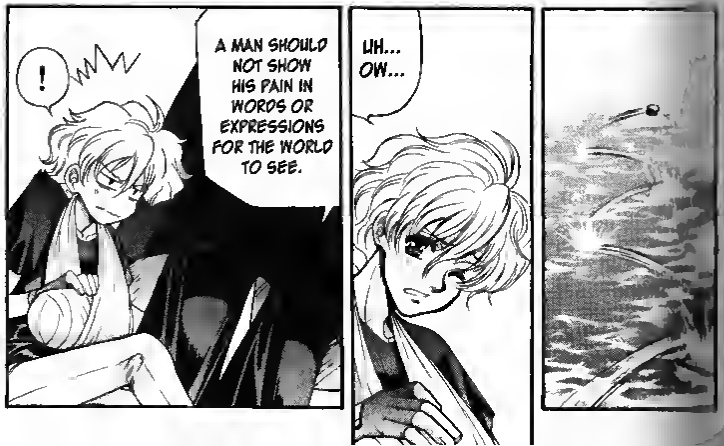
..LET'S TEST HIS SPEED!!
HAH!



HEAT GUY!!

YOUR MEMORY CIRCUITS WILL BE CONFISCATED BY THE AUTHORITIES AS EVIDENCE.
Whir
AAHH... TH-THIS IS WHY I WAS M-MADE... AAHH...
DATA... SCRAMBLED... AAHN...
AAH...
TARGET ELIMINATED.
MISSION COM-PLETE.
DATA SECURED.





...WE DISCOVERED THE EXISTENCE OF HIS FELLOW REFUGEES, NEIL AND JOE.

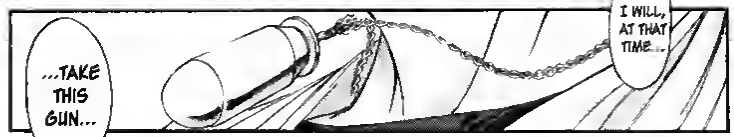
LATER... THANKS TO MISHA'S MEMORY CIRCUITS...

...AND WHY THEY WERE AFTER J.

IT'S GOING TO TAKE MORE WORK TO FIND OUT WHO PUT THEM UP TO THIS...

BUT, STRICTLY SPEAKING, THAT IS NOT OUR "WILL."
IF PROGRAMMED, IT IS EXECUTED.
THAT IS ALL THERE IS TO IT.
...MACHINES HAVE BEEN OUTLAWED
THAT'S RIGHT... THAT'S WHY IN THIS C-ITY...
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT PAIN FEELS LIKE...
PAIN-SENSING FUNCTIONALITY HAS NOT BEEN LOADED.
MACHINES DON'T UNDERSTAND HUMAN PAIN, DO THEY?
EASY FOR YOU TO SAY...
THAT'S WHY MACHINES CAN KILL PEOPLE SO EASILY...

KILLED BY AN ANDRDID DWNED BY DDN LEDNELLI.



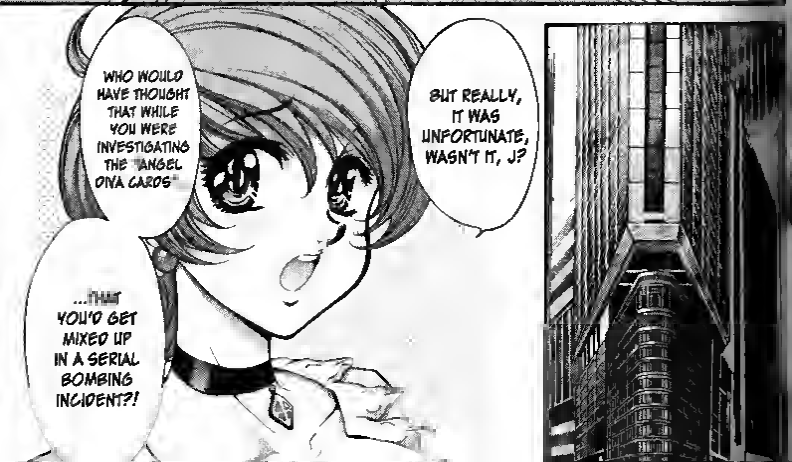
CITY -GUY- FIH

IT'S SOMETHING SOLD ON THE BLACK MARKET CALLED "ANGEL DIVA CARDS."
RIGHT NOW IN THE CITY, A STRANGE NEW FAD IS CATCHING ON.

GIRLS, BEING GIRLS, POSE ON STREET CORNERS LIKE IT'S A STATUS SYMBOL TO BE ON ONE.
THEY'RE CARDS OF PRETTY GIRLS ALL PHOTOGRAPHED WITHOUT THEIR KNOWLEDGE.
THE GUYS ARE OBSESSED WITH TRADING THEM.

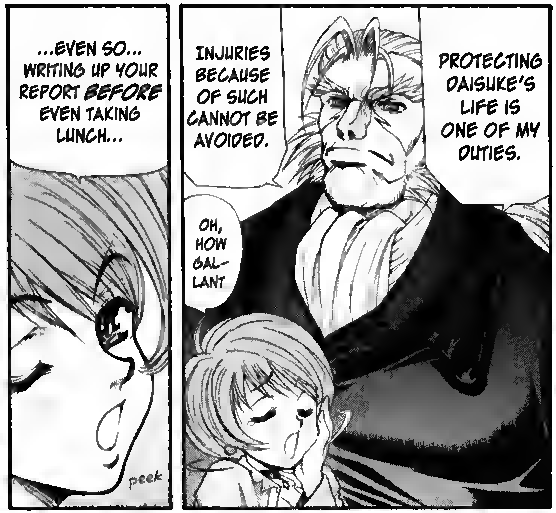
YOU ALL RIGHT, J?
YET, THEY DON'T KNOW FROM WHERE THEY'RE COMING... YOU KNOW?
WELL, WE INVESTIGATE GOOFY THINGS LIKE THIS, TOO.

IT IS, HUH? AFTER AN ENTIRE BUILDING FALLS ON TOP OF US...

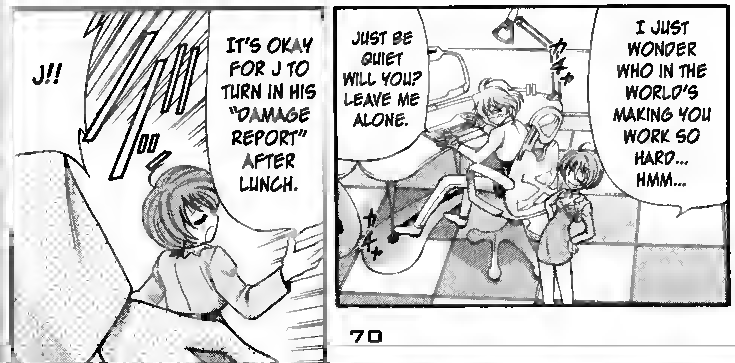

WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT WHILE YOU WERE INVESTIGATING THE "ANGEL OIVA CARDS"
BUT REALLY, IT WAS UNFORTUNATE, WASN'T IT, J?
...THAT YOU'D GET MIXED UP IN A SERIAL BOMBING INCIDENT?!

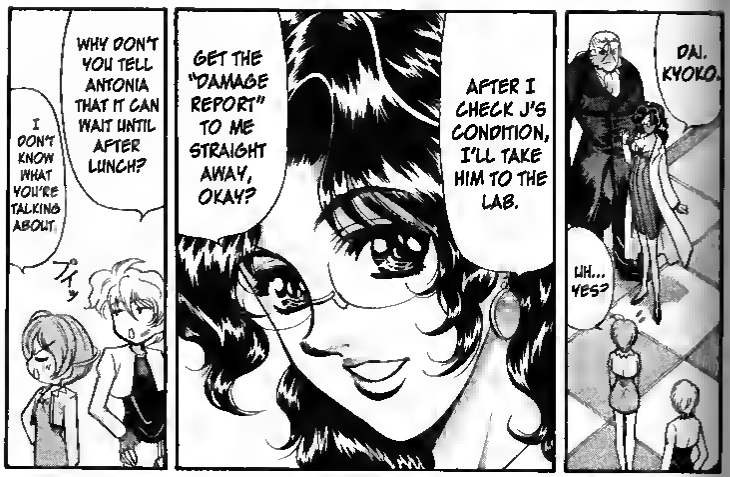
180 PERCENT OVER NORMAL WEIGHT LOAD. WITH REGARD TO THE WHOLE OF MY FUNCTIONALITY, IT IS DIFFICULT TO STATE THAT I AM UNCONCERNED.
IT'S THE DEPARTMENT OF SECURED CITY, SPECIAL SERVICE'S JOB.

UH...
J!!
PRO-FESSOR
AN-TONIA ...

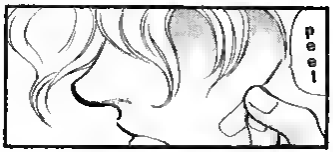

...EVEN SO... WRITING UP YOUR REPORT BEFORE EVEN TAKING LUNCH...
peek
INJURIES BECAUSE OF SUCH CANNOT BE AVOIDED.
PROTECTING DAISUKE'S LIFE IS ONE OF MY DUTIES.
OH, HOW GAL-LANT

YOU'RE BEING AWFULLY DILIGENT WITH YOUR WORK TODAY, AREN'T YOU, DAISUKE AURORA?


J!!
IT'S OKAY FOR J TO TURN IN HIS "DAMAGE REPORT" AFTER LUNCH.
JUST BE QUIET WILL YOU? LEAVE ME ALONE.
I JUST WONDER WHO IN THE WORLD'S MAKING YOU WORK SO HARD... HMM...


DAI, KYOKO.
UH... YES?
AFTER I CHECK J'S CONDITION, I'LL TAKE HIM TO THE LAB.
GET THE "DAMAGE REPORT" TO ME STRAIGHT AWAY, OKAY?
WHY DON'T YOU TELL ANTONIA THAT IT CAN WAIT UNTIL AFTER LUNCH?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

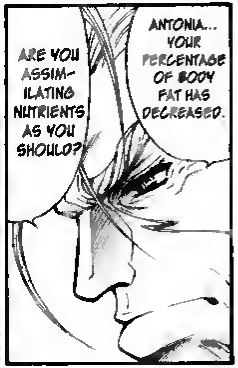
.....

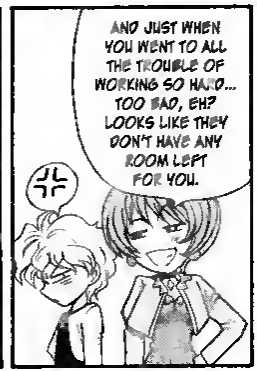

peel

HERE, I'M DONE WITH THE REPORT.
THANK YOU.

ANTONIA, YOU ARE NOT DISPLEASING TO MY OPTICAL PROCESSORS.
THANK YOU, J...
OOH... I'VE MISSED YOU SO MUCH...!

I'M FINE.
I'M MORE WORRIED ABOUT YOUR WOUNDS.


ANTONIA... YOUR PERCENTAGE OF BODY FAT HAS DECREASED.
ARE YOU ASSIMILATING NUTRIENTS AS YOU SHOULD?


AND JUST WHEN YOU WENT TO ALL THE TROUBLE OF WORKING SO HARD... TOO BAD, EH? LOOKS LIKE THEY DON'T HAVE ANY ROOM LEFT FOR YOU.

WHAT?

WAIT A MINUTE, DAI!

YOUR FACE. IT'S CUT.

.....

WE'RE PARTNERS, YOU KNOW
I KNOW IT CAN'T BE HELPED THAT J GETS HURT PROTECTING YOU, DAI.
THAT'S WHY I WANT YOU TO CUT BACK ON YOUR CARELESS ACTIONS.

DAI.
HUH?!

DON'T GET J HURT UNNECES-SARILY!

SORRY..

DISGUSTING!!
WHAT? LOOKING AT THE "ANGEL DIVA CARD" SITE IS A PART OF INFORMATION GATHERING, ISN'T IT?
GOOD GRIEF. GRINNING FROM EAR TO EAR FOR JUST A BAND-AID.
LOOKING AT THEM LIKE THIS, THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE I RECOGNIZE, YOU KNOW?
HMM
WHAT?! UH, RIGHT... THAT'S RIGHT, ISN'T IT?!
THESE...ARE "ANGEL DIVA CARDS" YOU KNOW.
HEY.
AM I...?

カチャ
カチャ
カチャ
SPECIAL
HEY! WHA...WHAT?
LET ME TAKE A LOOK!
IT'S PROFESSOR ANTONIA'S CARD...IT'S "SPECIAL"?!
SPECIAL
WELL, IT IS WHAT IT SAYS, RIGHT?
THAT'S TRUE...THE PROFESSOR IS A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN, ISN'T SHE...?

LIVE AT THE SCENE, I CAN REPORT THAT THE CASUALTIES FROM THE BOMBING INCIDENT THAT TOOK PLACE AT EXACTLY 11 11 AM HAVE NOW RISEN TO OVER 163 PEOPLE!
EVEN NOW, DOZENS OF FIREFIGHTERS ARE CONTINUING TO BATTLE THE BLAZE! WITH THIS LATEST ATTACK, THE VICTIMS OF THE SERIAL BOMBING INCIDENTS TOTAL 2,000...

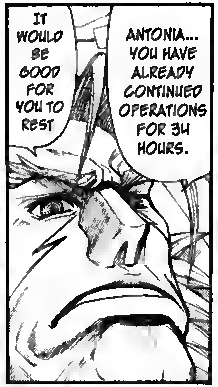
DON'T BE SO SAD. IT'S NOT LIKE YOU... INSPECTOR EDMUNDO.
!
.....
SPECIAL SERVICE'S LITTLE BOY, EH..
CAN'T YOU PREDICT THEM?
CAN YOU SEE THEIR PATTERN OR KNOW THEIR OBJECTIVES? ALL WE KNOW..
...IS THAT THE EXPLOSIVES THEY'RE HANDLING ARE DIVIDED INTO SIMPLE ONES AND OTHERS THAT REQUIRE SPECIAL TECHNIQUES TO DETONATE THEM...
THOSE THAT DON'T GET SADDENED ARE IDIOTS OR MACHINES...HOW MANY VICTIMS DO YOU THINK WILL COME OUT OF THERE?
A LOT, THAT'S FOR SURE.

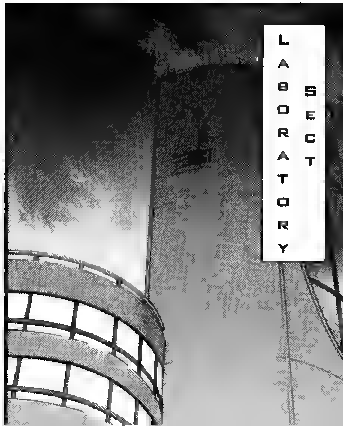
GOOD NIGHT...J...
SLEEP WELL... ANTONIA.

...IS THAT THE TIME OF THE BOMBINGS IS ALWAYS 11:11.
THE ONE THING THEY HAVE IN COMMON, OUR ONE KNOWN FACT...

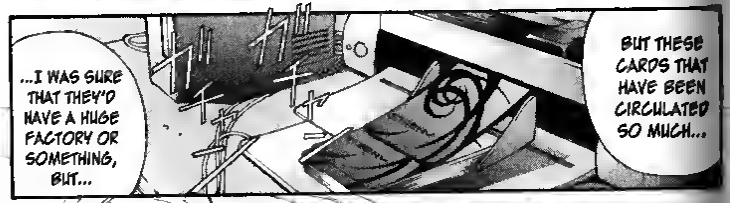
.....
IF NOT, IT'S A REAL MANIAC, ISN'T IT...
THE WORK OF A PRO?

BUT I'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT.
YOU SUFFERED MORE DAMAGE INTERNALLY THAN I FIRST THOUGHT...

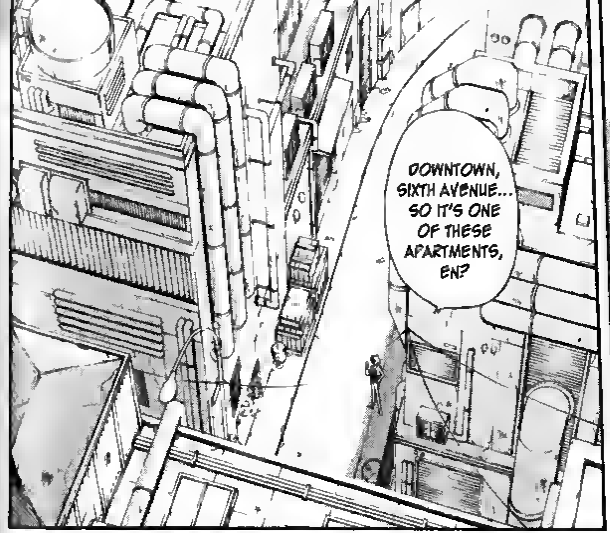

IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR YOU TO REST
ANTONIA... YOU HAVE ALREADY CONTINUED OPERATIONS FOR 34 HOURS.

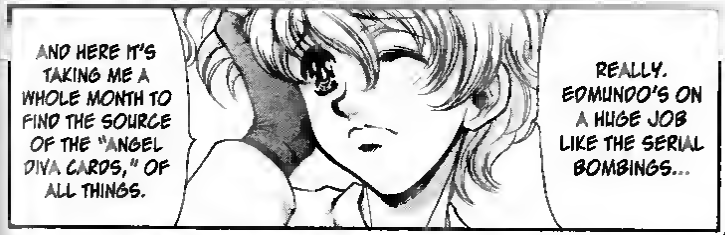

SECT LABORATORY

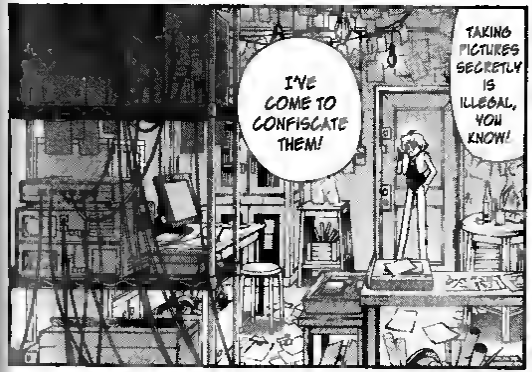
WHOA! WHAT AN AMAZING PLACE.
JUST GIRLS' PICTURES AND CARDS ALL OVER THE ROOM...

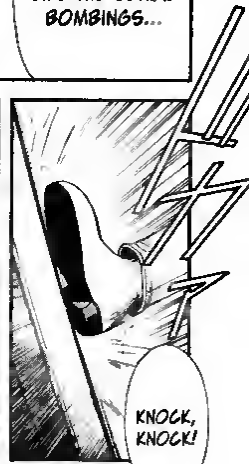

...I WAS SURE THAT THEY'D HAVE A HUGE FACTORY OR SOMETHING, BUT...
BUT THESE CARDS THAT HAVE BEEN CIRCULATED SO MUCH...

OCTOBER 26TH... THAT'S TODAY'S DATE...
HUH?!
HA HA... THEY'RE ALL OVER THIS CALENDAR ...
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF TASTE THEY HAVE...
...IT'S A TOTAL COTTAGE INDUSTRY INSIDE THIS APARTMENT.
ガチャン
ガチャン


DOWNTOWN, SIXTH AVENUE... SO IT'S ONE OF THESE APARTMENTS, EH?

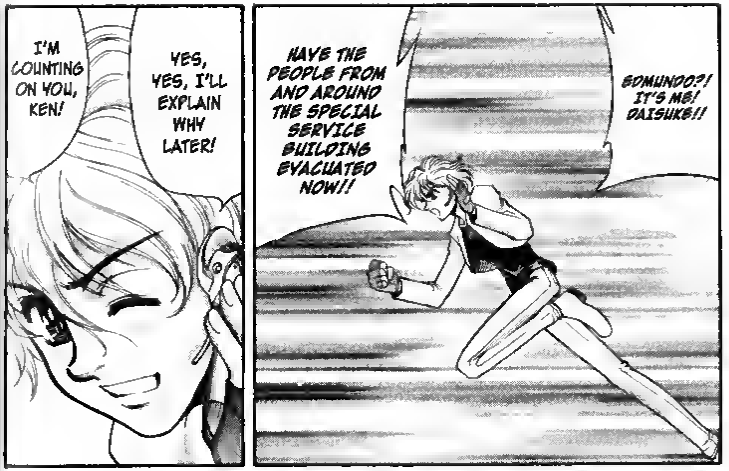

AND HERE IT'S TAKING ME A WHOLE MONTH TO FIND THE SOURCE OF THE "ANGEL DIVA CARDS," OF ALL THINGS.
REALLY. EDMUNDO'S ON A HUGE JOB LIKE THE SERIAL BOMBINGS...


I'VE COME TO CONFISCATE THEM!
TAKING PICTURES SECRETLY IS ILLEGAL, YOU KNOW!


KNOCK, KNOCK!

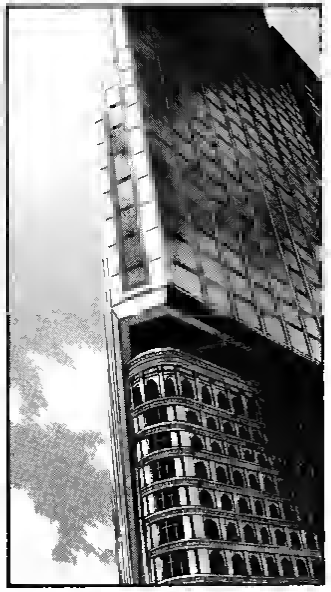
THE GUYS THAT EDMUNDO IS AFTER... IT COULDN'T BE THEM... COULD IT?!
THE MANIACS BEHIND THE SERIAL BOMBING INCIDENTS...?!
IT'S THE BRIDGE THAT WAS BOMBED A FEW DAYS AGO!! ON THE SAME DAY, TOO!
THIS BUILDING'S THE ONE J AND I GOT BURIED UNDER!
22
BUT THE BACK-GROUND'S NOT THAT GREAT...
HUH... SHE'S ACTUALLY PRETTY CUTE.
I THOUGHT SO!
OUR BUILDING'S SO DIRTY... HUH?!
IT'S KYOKO'S CARD.
THE SPECIAL SERVICE'S BUILDING...
26
ON TODAY'S DATE...
WAIT... THE BRIDGE IN THIS CARD...
10 OCT.
Wed. Thu
3
4
10
11
12
18
19
25
26
ON THESE CARDS HERE, TOO...
WHY'S IT THAT JUST THE ONES ON THE CALENDAR HAVE THE TWO LAYERED IMAGES...
BUT OUR BUILDING'S ERASED IN THIS ONE...
WHAT? THEY'RE THE SAME CARD...
11:58
!!
OUR ONLY KNOWN FACT IS THAT THE TIME OF THE BOMBINGS IS ALWAYS 11:11.

UNDER-GROUND WAREHOUSE DUCT-D?!
WARNING!
Explosive.
MAN... RIGHT UNDER THE FRONT DOOR...NOW THAT'S GUTSY!


I'M COUNTING ON YOU, KEN!
YES, YES, I'LL EXPLAIN WHY LATER!
HAVE THE PEOPLE FROM AND AROUND THE SPECIAL SERVICE BUILDING EVACUATED NOW!!
EDMUNDO?! IT'S ME! DAISUKE!!

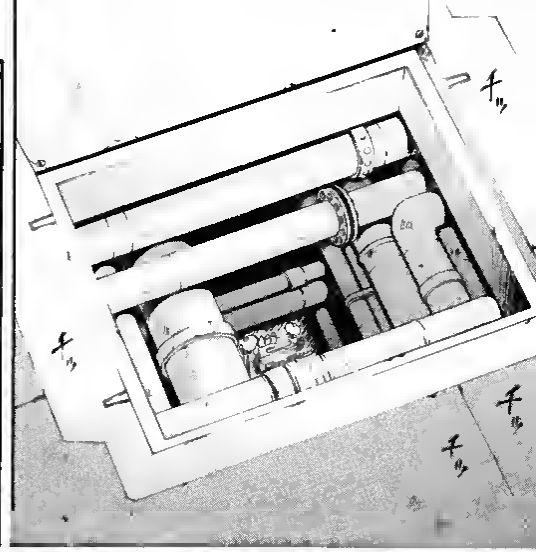
EVACUATION? WHAT'S GOING ON?
DAISUKE! WE HEARD FROM INSPECTOR KEN EDMUNDO...
IT'S OKAY, KYOKO! JUST GET THOSE RUBBERNECKERS OUT OF HERE!

LOOKING FOR HIDDEN TREASURE IN OUR BUILDING!
BUT WHERE ARE YOU GOING, DAI-SUKE?!



WHAT?!

GREAT IT'S THAT FAR DOWN?!

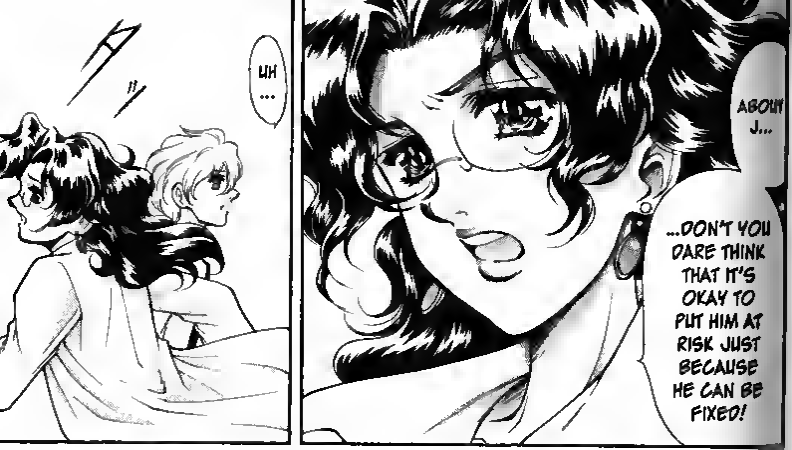


GOTTA REACH IT!!

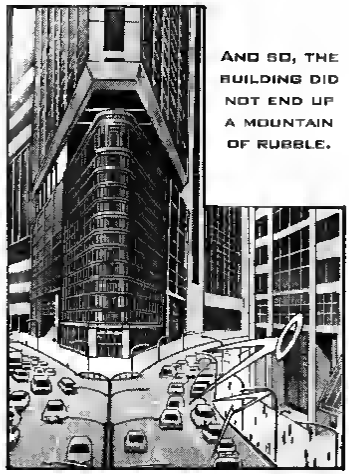
DAMN! I'M SO CLOSE!!

SHIT!
COME ON! REACH!!

J!!


UH...
ABOUT J...
...DON'T YOU DARE THINK THAT IT'S OKAY TO PUT HIM AT RISK JUST BECAUSE HE CAN BE FIXED!

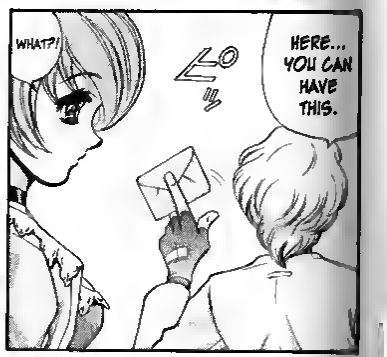
...BY EDMUNDD, OF COURSE.
THE SERIAL BOMBER, A.K.A. THE ANGEL DIVA CARD PRODUCER, WAS ARRESTED VERY QUICKLY...

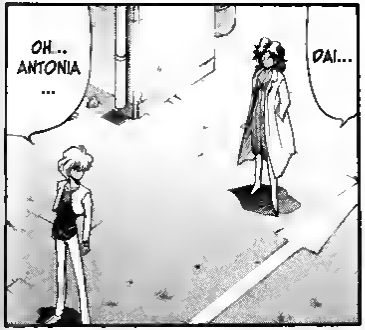

AND SO, THE BUILDING DID NOT END UP A MOUNTAIN OF RUBBLE.

OAI-SUKE
...

...HEADED RIGHT BACK TO THE SECT LAB. AGAIN.
AND POOR OL' J...

TH...THIS CARD, IS IT...
AN ANGEL DIVA CARD?!
ANGEL


WHAT?!
HERE... YOU CAN HAVE THIS.

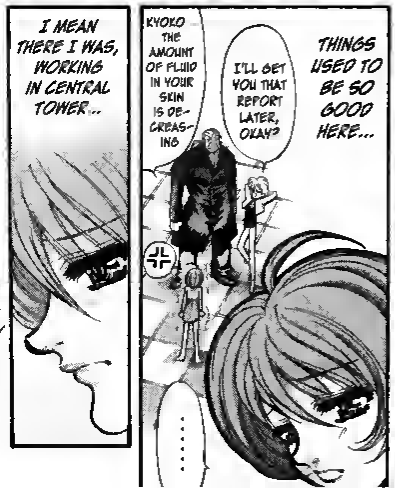

OH... ANTONIA...
OAI...

THIS TIME IT'LL TAKE A MONTH FOR A TOTAL RECOVERY...

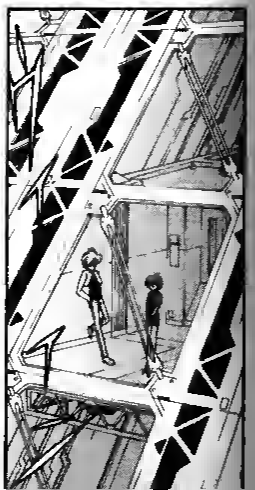
HERE IS THE "MAIN OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SECURED CITY" WHICH GOVERNS "SPECIAL SERVICE."
CENTRAL TOWER THRUSTS UP INTO THE SKYLINE OF JEWDE AS A SYMBOL TO ALL.

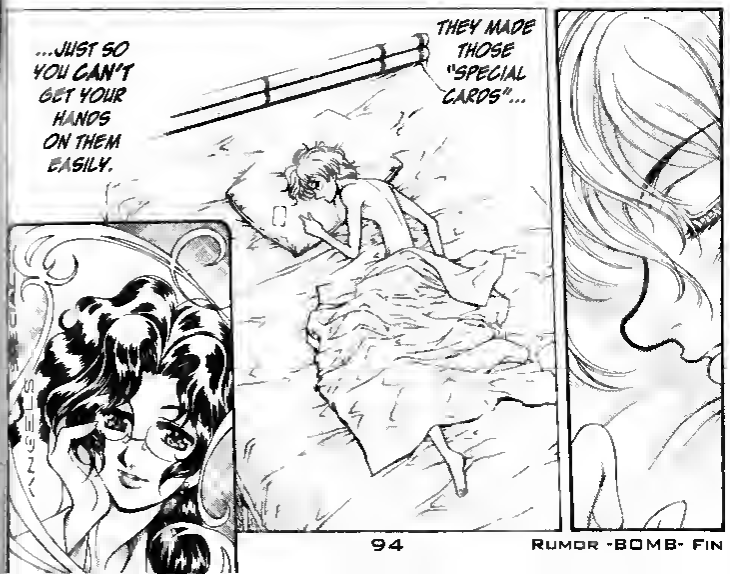
AND WHEN I LOOKED SO CUTE!
If you're always mad, you'll grow horns!
WH... WHAT'S THIS?!!

WELL... IT'S THE SAME WITH ANY COLLECTIBLE...


I MEAN THERE I WAS, WORKING IN CENTRAL TOWER...
AND THEN...?!
WHY WAS I TRANSFERRED TO THIS CRAPPY "SPECIAL SERVICE" DEPARTMENT?

KYOKO THE AMOUNT OF FLUID IN YOUR SKIN IS DECREASING
I'LL GET YOU THAT REPORT LATER, OKAY?
THINGS USED TO BE SO GOOD HERE...




...JUST SO YOU CAN'T GET YOUR HANDS ON THEM EASILY.
THEY MADE THOSE "SPECIAL CARDS"...

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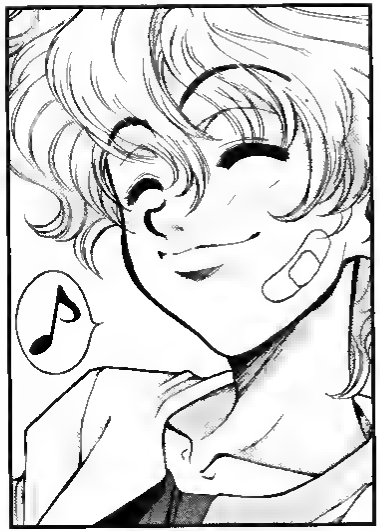
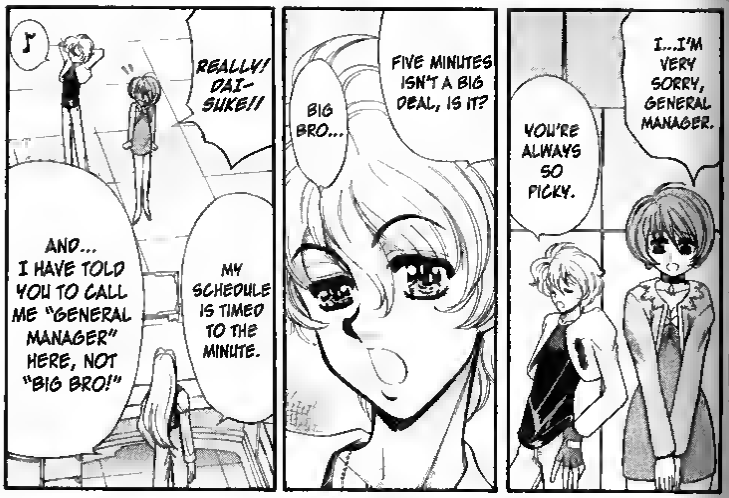
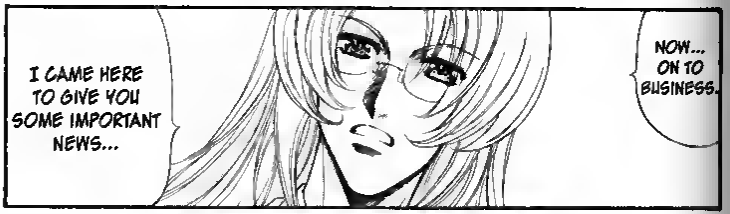


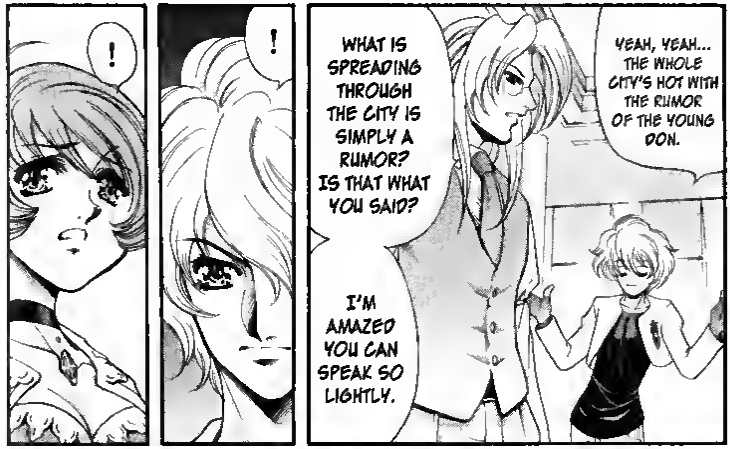

♪
REALLY! DAI-SUKE!!
AND... I HAVE TOLD YOU TO CALL ME "GENERAL MANAGER" HERE, NOT "BIG BRO!"
MY SCHEDULE IS TIMED TO THE MINUTE.
BIG BRO...
FIVE MINUTES ISN'T A BIG DEAL, IS IT?
I...I'M VERY SORRY, GENERAL MANAGER.
YOU'RE ALWAYS SO PICKY.


I CAME HERE TO GIVE YOU SOME IMPORTANT NEWS...
NOW... ON TO BUSINESS.

YOU ARE AWARE THAT THE ONLY SON OF DON LEONELLI, THE 19-YEAR-OLD CLAIR, TOOK THE OFFICE, CORRECT?
THE HEAD OF COMPANY VITA... HAS TAKEN THE POSITION OF "VAMPIRE."

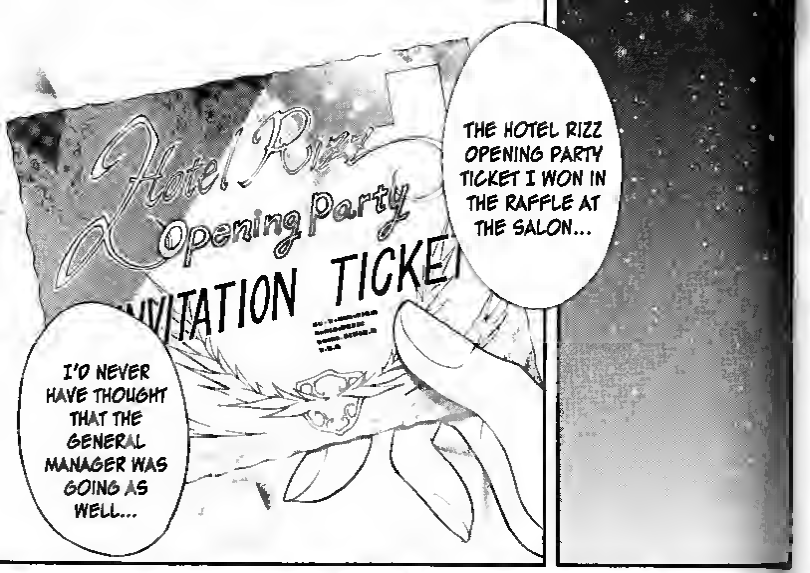
GENERAL MANAGER SHUN AURORA!!
YOU'RE FIVE MINUTES AND 37 SECONDS LATE, DAISUKE.

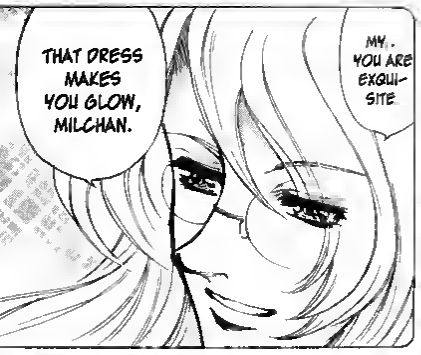
EXTRA PERSONNEL AND FUNDING IS NOT POSSIBLE RIGHT NOW!
DON'T FORGET THAT SPECIAL SERVICE IS IN ITS TRIAL STAGE.
SURE, WE CAN USE J, BUT EVEN HE HAS HIS LIMITS!!
THEN INCREASE THE STAFF! WHAT'RE WE SUPPOSED TO DO WITH ONLY THREE PEOPLE?!
THAT IS WHY YOU HAVE J.
WHAT?! JUST BECAUSE I'M YOUR LITTLE BROTHER YOU FIGURE YOU CAN WORK ME TO DEATH FOR MINIMUM WAGE?!
THEN AT LEAST GIVE ME MORE AMMUNITION!!
あわわ
JUST GIVE US MORE PEOPLE!
NO CAN DO
I CAN'T.
GENERAL MANAGER.. IT'S TIME.
ムカ
コソコソ
HMPH.
IT'S WRITTEN ALL OVER YOUR FACE!
WHO SAID ANYTHING LIKE THAT?!


!
!
WHAT IS SPREADING THROUGH THE CITY IS SIMPLY A RUMOR? IS THAT WHAT YOU SAID?
I'M AMAZED YOU CAN SPEAK SO LIGHTLY.
YEAH, YEAH... THE WHOLE CITY'S HOT WITH THE RUMOR OF THE YOUNG DON.

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CHANCES ARE THAT INNOCENT CITIZENS WILL GET CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE AND BECOME CASUALTIES?!
THE WEI FAMILY AND LEONELLI'S OTHER OPPOSITION, WHO DO NOT THINK WELL OF YOUNG CLAIR, ARE MAKING THEIR MOVE ON THE CITY.

SO YOU NEED TO SHOW WHAT IT CAN DO!
THE SPECIAL SERVICE EXISTS TO PREVENT CRIME!
SO? TELL IT TO EDMUNDO.


Hotel Rizz
Opening Party
INVITATION TICKET
THE HOTEL RIZZ OPENING PARTY TICKET I WON IN THE RAFFLE AT THE SALON...
I'D NEVER HAVE THOUGHT THAT THE GENERAL MANAGER WAS GOING AS WELL...

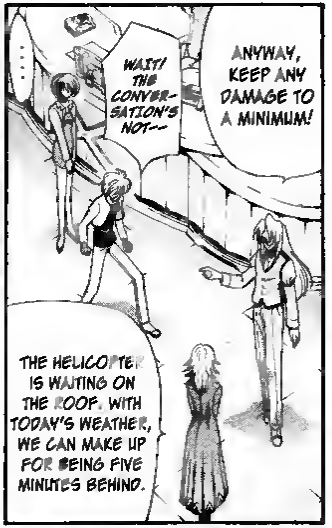

THAT DRESS MAKES YOU GLOW, MILCHAN.
MY. YOU ARE EXQUISITE.

OH, SHUN.
PLEASE CALL ME KYOKO.

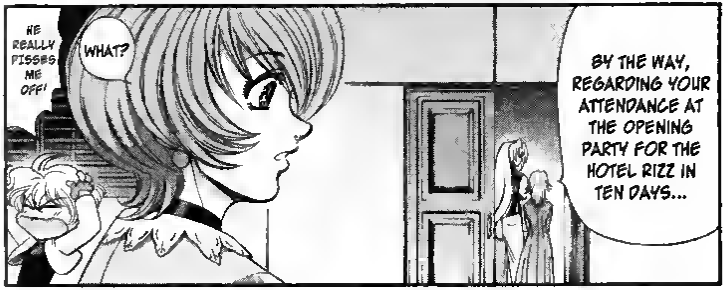
I WAS GOING TO GIVE THIS TO SOMEONE ELSE. I'M TERRIBLE AT THESE FLASHY EVENTS, BUT...
...I'M GLAD I HELD ONTO IT.

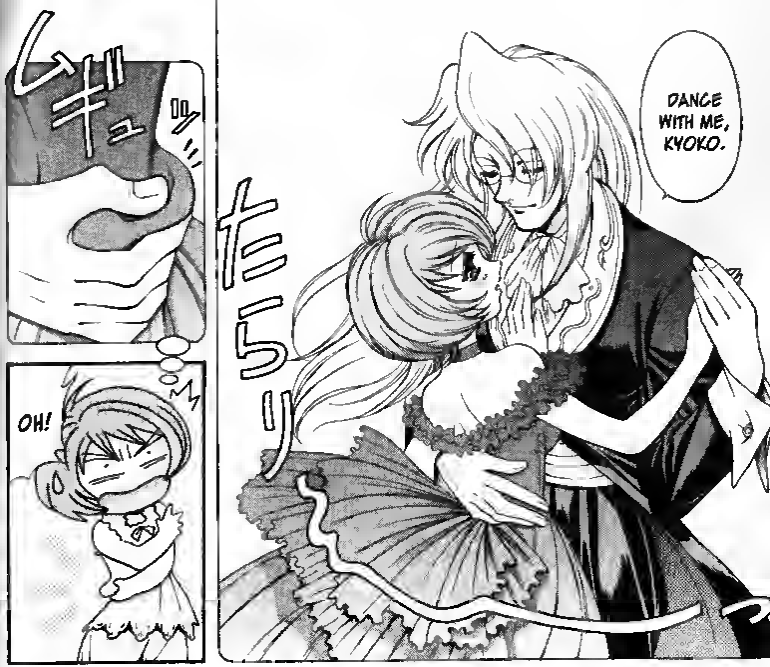
THAT'S OKAY.
DON'T IGNORE ME!!
SORRY, PHIA.

ﾍﾟｺﾘ


ANYWAY, KEEP ANY DAMAGE TO A MINIMUM!
WAIT! THE CONVERSATION'S NOT---
THE HELICOPTER IS WAITING ON THE ROOF. WITH TODAY'S WEATHER, WE CAN MAKE UP FOR BEING FIVE MINUTES BEHIND.

...I'D LOVE TO WORK WITH GENERAL MANAGER SHUN.
PHIA IS SO LUCKY...


HE REALLY PISSES ME OFF!
WHAT?
BY THE WAY, REGARDING YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THE OPENING PARTY FOR THE HOTEL RIZZ IN TEN DAYS...


DANCE WITH ME, KYOKO.

OH!

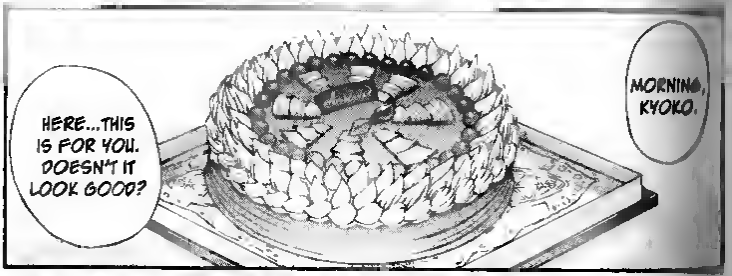
I GUESS I'VE BEEN EATING TOO MANY SWEET THINGS LATELY...
OH... NO.

...A DIET!!

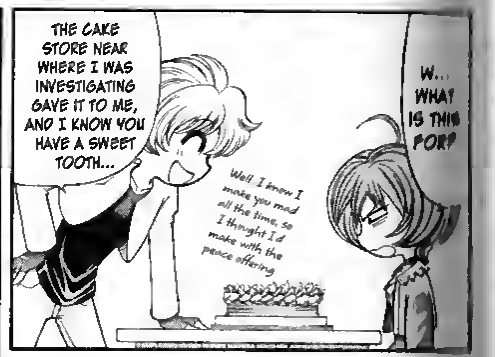
ONLY TEN DAYS LEFT BEFORE I HAVE TO WEAR A SWIMSUIT IN FRONT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER?! THAT MEANS...

WHAT'S THIS?!!
THE PARTY WILL BE HELD POOLSIDE, SO WE ASK THAT YOU WEAR SWIMWEAR?!

BUT ONLY FIVE MORE DAYS...
OH, I'M SO HUNGRY...


MORNING, KYOKO.
HERE...THIS IS FOR YOU. DOESN'T IT LOOK GOOD?

I DON'T WANT IT!
WHOA!

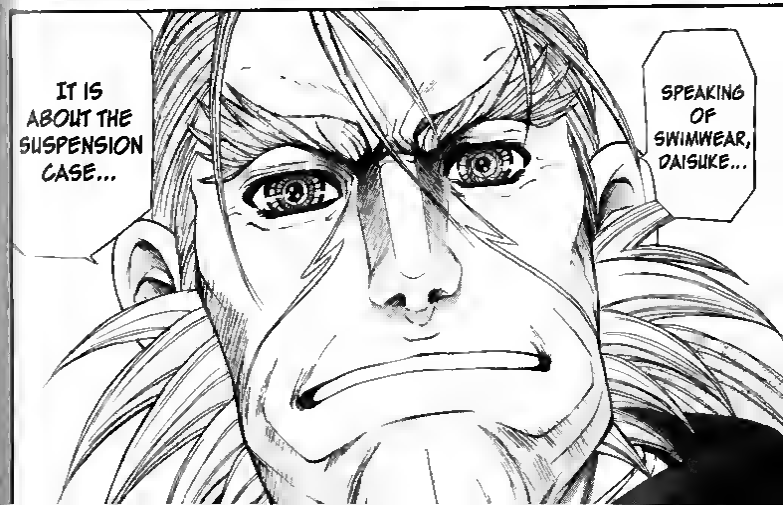

THE CAKE STORE NEAR WHERE I WAS INVESTIGATING GAVE IT TO ME, AND I KNOW YOU HAVE A SWEET TOOTH...
Well I know I make you mad all the time, so I thought I'd make with the peace offering
W... WHAT IS THIS FOR?

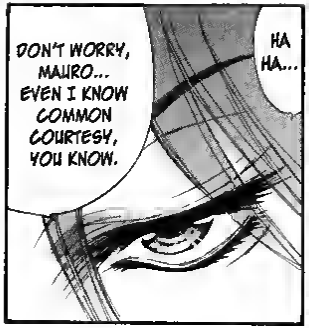
BUSINESS, BUREAUCRACY AND RED TAPE...
PLUS PICKING UP ALL THE LOOSE WOMEN IN JEWDE FOR A POOL PARTY...
THAT'S JUST REALLY BAD TASTE.

SHE BECAME EXTREMELY ANGRY WITH ME, STATING, "J'S METHOD ISN'T EXTREME ENOUGH."
HER METHOD IS CREATING TOO MUCH OF A BURDEN ON HER BODY. I TAUGHT HER THE CORRECT METHOD, BUT...

KYOKO IS CURRENTLY IN THE MIDST OF AN EXTREME DIET.
W... WHAT'S WITH KYOKO...?

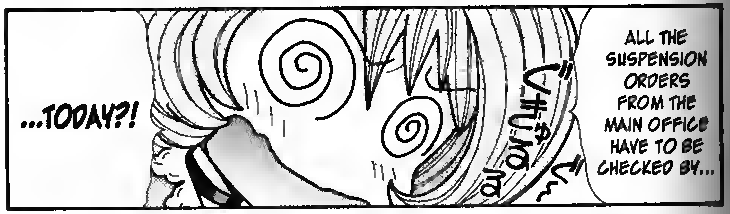
WHAT, SHE'S PLANNING TO CHANGE CAREERS TO A SWIMSUIT MODEL?
OH...

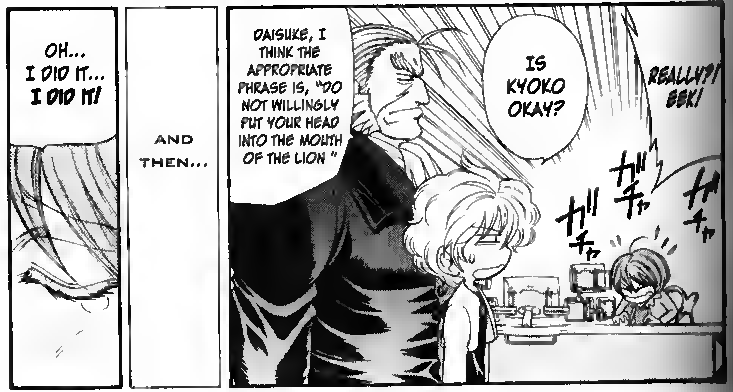

IT IS ABOUT THE SUSPENSION CASE...
SPEAKING OF SWIMWEAR, DAISUKE...

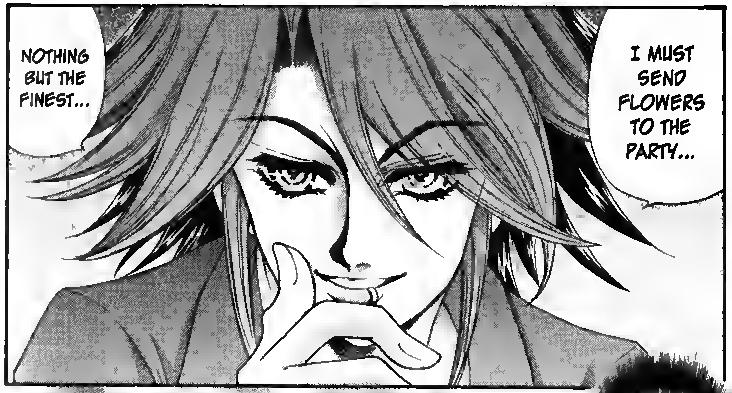

DON'T WORRY, MAURO... EVEN I KNOW COMMON COURTESY, YOU KNOW.
HA HA...

MASTER CLAIR...
THEY'VE BEEN FEELING A LITTLE BIT TOO COMFORTABLE SINCE PAPA DIED.
THAT WEI LONG-LIN GUY...

CHEESE-BURGERS, FRENCH FRIES AND ICE CREAM?!
OH...THIS IS NO GOOD! I SEE FOOD EVERYWHERE...
COME ON, KYOKO...JUST TWO DAYS LEFT... TWO DAYS OF HELL...


...TODAY?!
ALL THE SUSPENSION ORDERS FROM THE MAIN OFFICE HAVE TO BE CHECKED BY...


OH... I DID IT... I DID IT!
AND THEN...
DAISUKE, I THINK THE APPROPRIATE PHRASE IS, "DO NOT WILLINGLY PUT YOUR HEAD INTO THE MOUTH OF THE LION."
IS KYOKO OKAY?
REALLY?! BEK!


NOTHING BUT THE FINEST...
I MUST SEND FLOWERS TO THE PARTY...

...FLOWER OF DEATH!!

TODAY'S THE DAY AND I FIT INTO MY PERFECT SIZE!
NOW THAT I'M HERE IN THIS HUGE PLACE...
...I MUST FIND GENERAL MANAGER AURORA...
HEY, KYOKO.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
DAISUKE AND J! WH...WHY ARE YOU HERE?!
WE ARE WORKING
AND YOU DRESSED UP LIKE THAT? WHAT'S UP?
DON'T BE STUPID!!
THERE'S NO WAY I'D HAVE A FRIEND IN THE FAMILY, RIGHT?!
PRIVATE, YOU SAY...? DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE IN THE FAMILY?
THIS PARTY IS PRIVATE!!
PLEASE DO NOT LOOK!!

23 MM FROM YOUR WAIST, AND YOUR HIPS, TOO.
EEK! EEK! EEK!
YOU'VE REDUCED YOUR BODY FAT RATIO TO 9.1 PERCENT!
I MUST CONGRATULATE YOU! VERY CUTE.
WHAT?!
ALTHOUGH IT IS THE EXACT OPPOSITE OF BIG BRO'S TASTES.
WHAT?
SERIOUSLY... THAT SWIMSUIT SUITS YOU BEAUTIFULLY.
DAISUKE. UMM... BY THE GENERAL MANAGER'S TASTES, YOU MEAN...
RIGHT, J.
DAISUKE, CHECK OUT THE OTHER SIDE AS WELL...
IT'S SOMETHING LIKE THAT..
HIS TASTE?

WHAT?!
BECAUSE YOU KNOW THIS HOTEL'S OWNED BY THE WEI FAMILY, RIGHT?
AND SO THAT'S WHY WE WERE SENT IN AS "BIG BRO'S STAND-INS."
LATELY, I'VE BEEN TOO HUNGRY TO EVEN CHECK ANY DATA...
WHAT?! OH...YES, THAT'S RIGHT.
KYOKO. REGARDING THE DATA CONCERNING THIS SUSPENSION CASE. I UNDERSTAND IT WAS ALSO SENT TO YOUR COMPUTER FROM THE MAIN OFFICE. BUT...
BU...BUT THAT'S...
OF COURSE NOT... BECAUSE WE'RE STANDING IN FOR HIM.
BUT ENOUGH OF THAT, KYOKO...
THEN THE GENERAL MANAGER ISN'T COMING?!
S-STAND-INS?! YOU MEAN ...
WHAT?!

MMM...
A KISS AS A PRAYER FOR THE GROWTH OF THE WEI FAMILY...
HA HA HA... WHAT A PERSUASIVE YOUNG LADY.
WOW! AND I THOUGHT THE SWIMSUIT WAS BOLD...
WELL!
HERE HE GOES AGAIN
MMM...
MMM...
DAISUKE! THAT WOMAN... I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM HER CITIZEN ID!
WHAT?! A REFUGEE?
NO.

YEAH... GREAT, ISN'T SHE?
W...WHAT?! SHE'S PRACTICALLY NUDE!
NICE TO MEET YOU, MISTER WEI LONG-LIN.
!
WHAT KIND OF THANKS WOULD THAT BE?
WELL, WELL, MY PRETTY YOUNG THING...
...FOR INVITING ME TO SUCH A WONDERFUL PARTY...
I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU...

AHH!
WHOA!

!!
SHE'S STRONG!
!!

WEI LONG-LIN!!
WEI ?!
?!
UGH...
UG...

J !!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
THE TARGET HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A C-CLASS A.I. MACHINE!!

STEP AWAY FROM WEI LONG-LIN!
STOP IT!!
I MUST DE-STROY IT!!

DIE, YOU METAL BITCH!!

WHAT IS IT?!
WHOA!
EEK!
EEK!
WHA?
!!

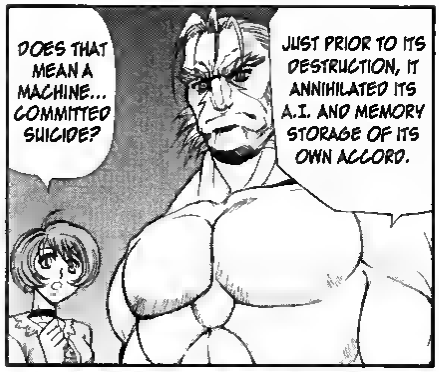
AAHH!

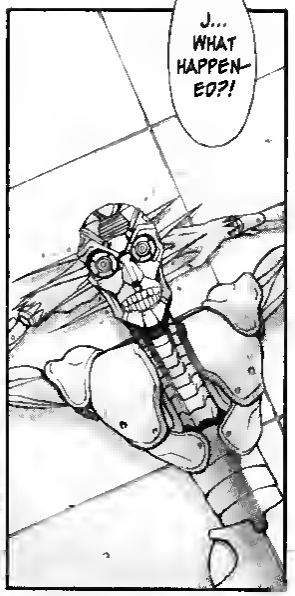
!!

SHIT!
KILL IT! DE-STROY IT!
THAT TH... THING'S A MA-CHINE!!
WEI LONG-LIN!!
WEI!
SOUGH!
SOUGH!

!!
J! DON'T LET IT GET AWAY! GET THAT DATA!!
I WILL DE-STROY!
ONE DAY, J, I SHALL DESTROY YOU.
PREPARE FOR IT. ADIEU!

IT'S A SPECIAL MACHINE, VAMPIRE... CREATED IN ABSOLUTE SECRECY BY ANTONIA BELLUCCI.
IT'S FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF SECURED CITY.
THE SPECIAL SERVICE REFERS TO THAT MACHINE AS...
...HEAT GUY.


DOES THAT MEAN A MACHINE... COMMITTED SUICIDE?
JUST PRIOR TO ITS DESTRUCTION, IT ANNIHILATED ITS A.I. AND MEMORY STORAGE OF ITS OWN ACCORD.


J... WHAT HAPPENED?!

BUT STILL, THAT'S PRETTY DISGUSTING.
IT WAS PROBABLY PROGRAMMED THAT WAY...

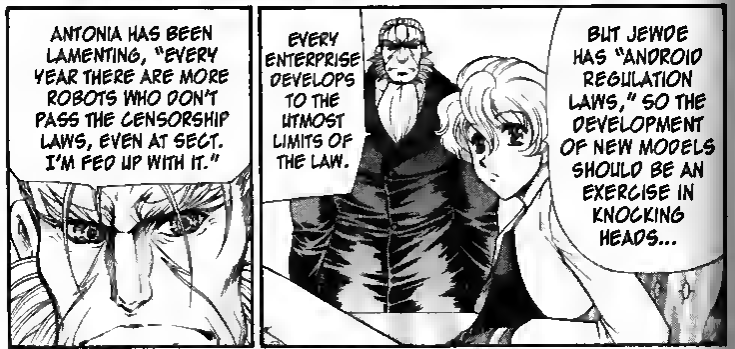
BUT...WHAT WAS IT? THAT HUGE ONE...
I DON'T LIKE IT...

BUT I WON'T LET THE NEXT ONE GO.

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A FITTING DEATH, IF HE WAS STRANGLED BY A WOMAN.
YOUNG MASTER...

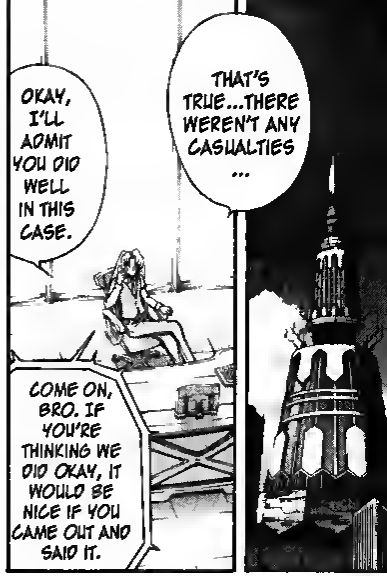
AHA HA HA HA! WEI BARELY ESCAPED WITH HIS LIFE, EH?!

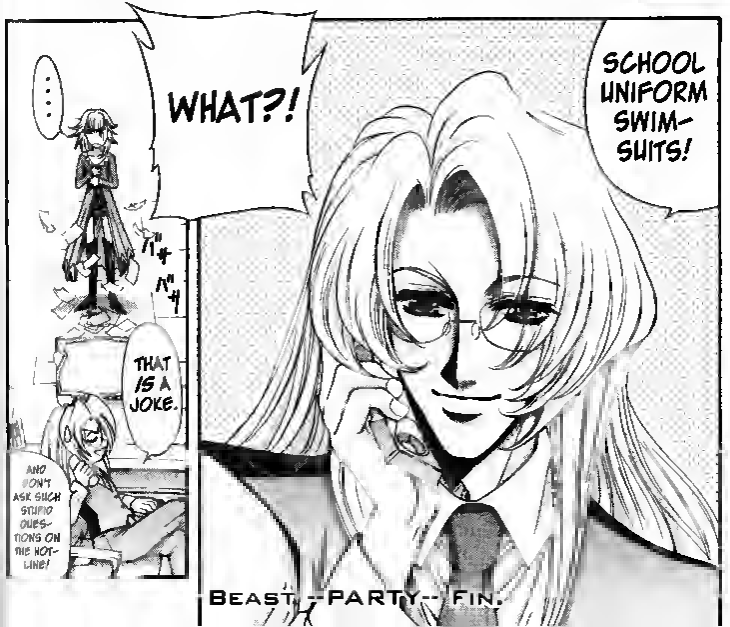
JEWDE'S ROBOT EXPO AT THE WINTER AMUSEMENT SHOW!!
COMING SOON!
12/26·27
FROM TOYS TO HEAVY MACHINERY! A ROBOT EXTRAVAGANZA WITH ALL THE NEW MODELS UNDER ONE ROOF!!


ANTONIA HAS BEEN LAMENTING, "EVERY YEAR THERE ARE MORE ROBOTS WHO DON'T PASS THE CENSORSHIP LAWS, EVEN AT SECT. I'M FED UP WITH IT."
EVERY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPS TO THE UTMOST LIMITS OF THE LAW.
BUT JEWDE HAS "ANDROID REGULATION LAWS," SO THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW MODELS SHOULD BE AN EXERCISE IN KNOCKING HEADS...

※ SECT: THE CIVILIAN DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE THAT PROFESSOR ANTONIA, WHO CREATED J, IS ASSOCIATED WITH.

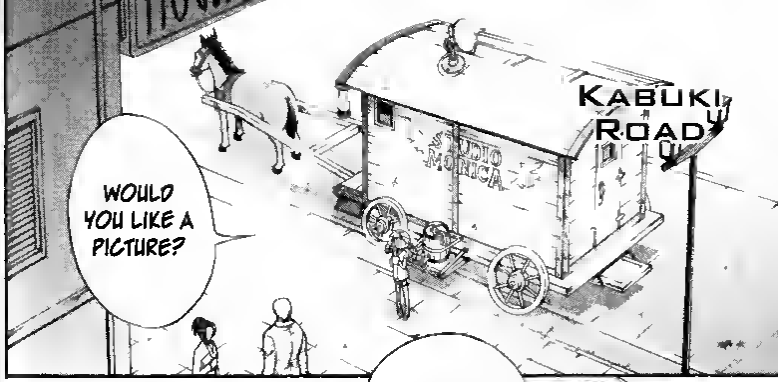
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! WHAT'S YOUR TASTE IN GIRL'S SWIM-WEAR?
I MEAN, HAVING ME AND J WEAR STUFF LIKE SWIM-SUITS!
WOMEN'S SWIMWEAR? I DON'T KNOW...

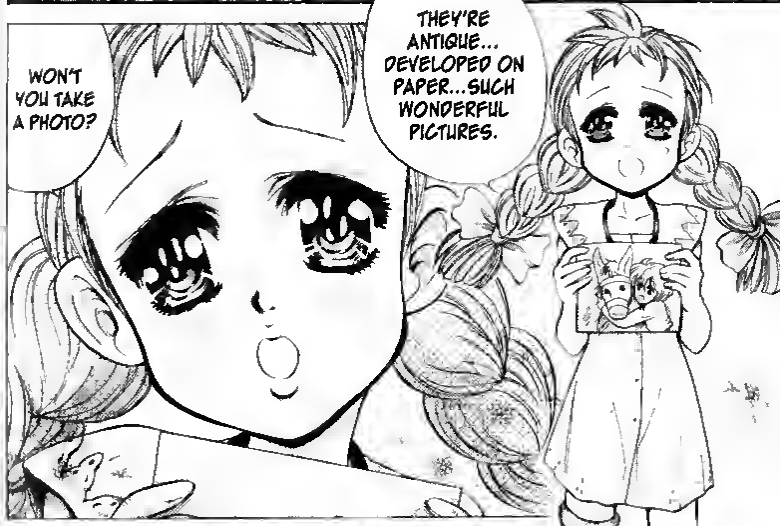

OKAY, I'LL ADMIT YOU DID WELL IN THIS CASE.
THAT'S TRUE...THERE WEREN'T ANY CASUALTIES ...
COME ON, BRO. IF YOU'RE THINKING WE DID OKAY, IT WOULD BE NICE IF YOU CAME OUT AND SAID IT.

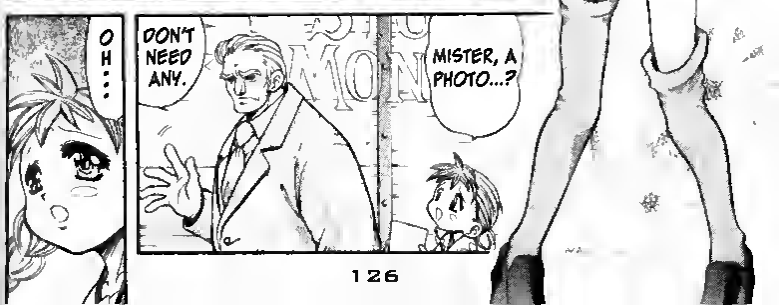


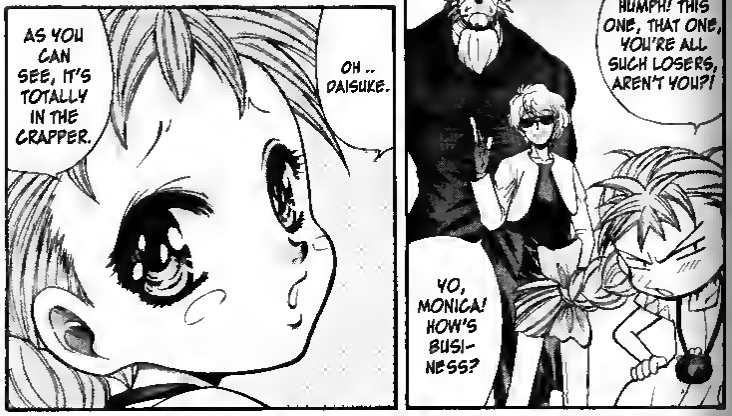
BEAST --PARTY-- FIN.

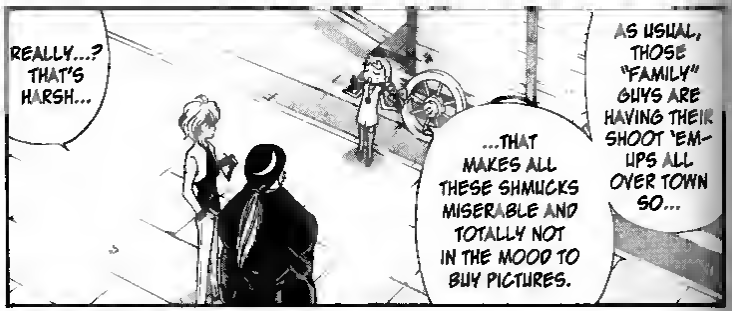
ROGER, DAISUKE.
OH YEAH...! I JUST REMEMBERED THAT CASE WE WERE LOOKING INTO...! LET'S GO, J!
THEN PLEASE TURN IN ALL OF THE REPORTS THAT I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!!
A ROBOT LECTURE...WHILE WATCHING TV... DURING WORK...
AH, WHAT A PITY...
HAVEN'T YOU, DAISUKE?
YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF FREE TIME...
SO, IF YOU HAVE TIME TO SPARE ...


RADIO MONICA
WOULD YOU LIKE A PICTURE?

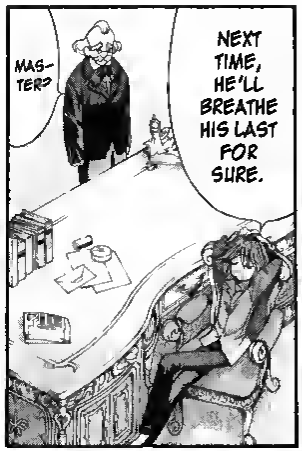

WON'T YOU TAKE A PHOTO?
THEY'RE ANTIQUE... DEVELOPED ON PAPER...SUCH WONDERFUL PICTURES.


OH...
DON'T NEED ANY.
MISTER, A PHOTO...?


AS YOU CAN SEE, IT'S TOTALLY IN THE CRAPPER.
OH .. DAISUKE.
HUMPH! THIS ONE, THAT ONE, YOU'RE ALL SUCH LOSERS, AREN'T YOU?!
YO, MONICA! HOW'S BUSI-NESS?

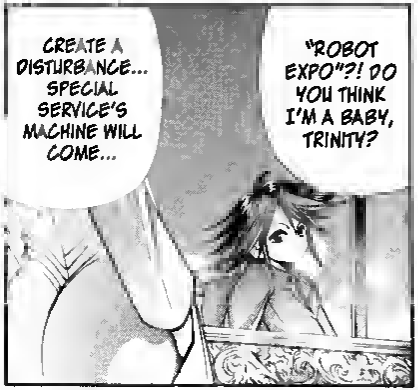

REALLY...? THAT'S HARSH...
...THAT MAKES ALL THESE SHMUCKS MISERABLE AND TOTALLY NOT IN THE MOOD TO BUY PICTURES.
AS USUAL, THOSE "FAMILY" GUYS ARE HAVING THEIR SHOOT 'EM-UPS ALL OVER TOWN SO...

ROBOT... EXPO?!
COULD NOT THE "ROBOT EXPO" TEN DAYS HENCE BE DESCRIBED AS A FUN EVENT?
FUN EVENT, EH...?
IF THERE WAS SOMETHING FUN, SOME EVENT, THEN IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE DIFFERENT, BUT...

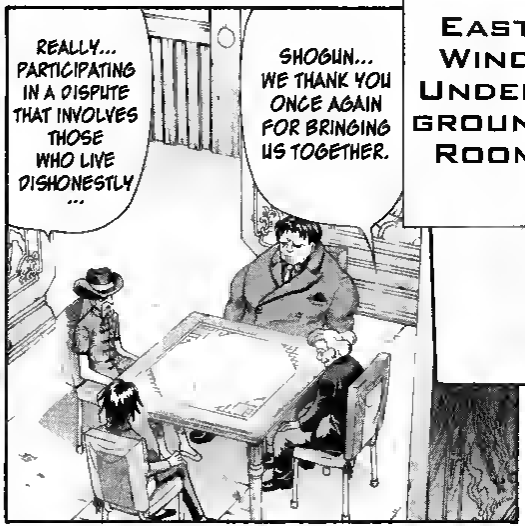

MAS-TER?
NEXT TIME, HE'LL BREATHE HIS LAST FOR SURE.

I REALLY DIDN'T THINK THAT WEI WOULD BACK DOWN SO QUICKLY.
HOW BORING.

THERE MUST BE SOMETHING OF INTEREST SOMEWHERE FOR ME...
I CAN DO ANYTHING NOW...


CREATE A DISTURBANCE... SPECIAL SERVICE'S MACHINE WILL COME...
"ROBOT EXPO"?! DO YOU THINK I'M A BABY, TRINITY?

THEN...
...WHY NOT AMUSE YOURSELF AT THE "ROBOT EXPO," VAMPIRE?


EAST WIND UNDER-GROUND ROOM
SHOGUN... WE THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN FOR BRINGING US TOGETHER.
REALLY... PARTICIPATING IN A DISPUTE THAT INVOLVES THOSE WHO LIVE DISHONESTLY ...

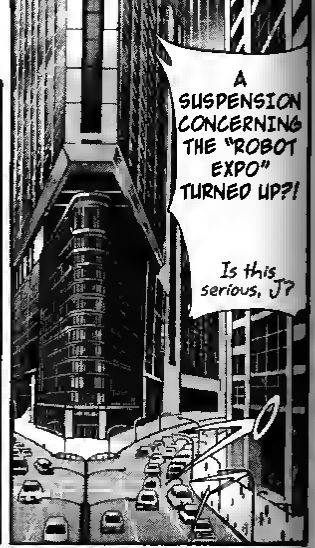
I AM VERY SORRY TO HAVE TROUBLED YOU, SHOGUN.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST LET ME PASS MY LAST DAYS IN PEACE?

...I'LL NEVER TURN ONE DOWN.
HOW-EVER

IT'S OKAY. I DON'T LIKE FIGHTS, EITHER.
CLAIR...WEI HAS ACKNOWLEDGED YOU AS VAMPIRE... IS THAT ALL RIGHT?

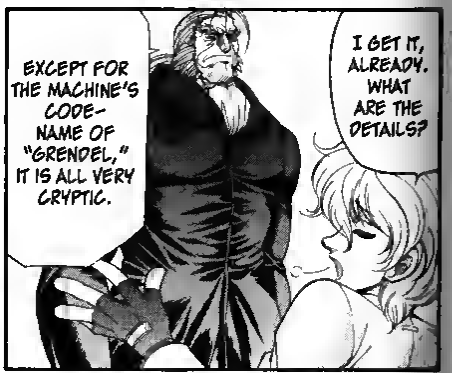
...TO ASK YOU TO STOP FIGHTING.
WELL, OKAY... JUST LET ME USE THIS OPPOR-TUNITY...

COME ON... YOU CAN'T BELIEVE ANY OF THE STUFF POSTED ON THOSE FANATICS FORUMS!
ON A BBS GEARED TOWARD ROBOT FANATICS, AN ANONYMOUS POST WHICH STATED, "AN ILLEGAL MACHINE WILL BE EXHIBITED AT THE ROBOT EXPO," HAS BEEN CONFIRMED.


A SUSPENSION CONCERNING THE "ROBOT EXPO" TURNED UP?!
Is this serious, J?

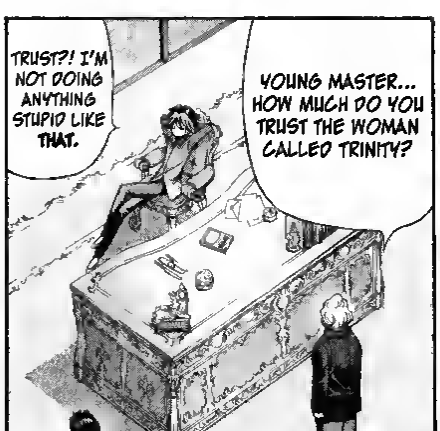
...OUR DUTY!
BUT TO INVESTIGATE ALL AVENUES AND "PREVENT CRIME" IS...

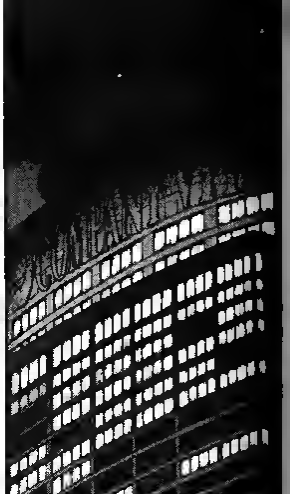
I'VE HEARD THAT NAME BEFORE.
"GRENDEL," HUH?

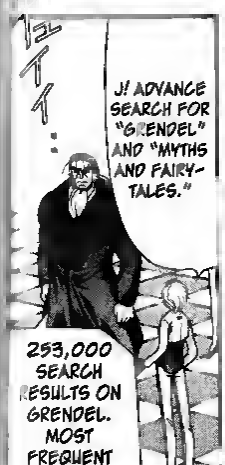

EXCEPT FOR THE MACHINE'S CODE-NAME OF "GRENDEL," IT IS ALL VERY CRYPTIC.
I GET IT, ALREADY. WHAT ARE THE DETAILS?

IT WILL FACE A MACHINE THAT I HAVE CREATED...
MY "GRENDEL" WILL DESTROY THEIR "HEAT GUY!"

TO SEE SUCH A SHOW...HOW INTERESTING WOULD THAT BE...
VAMPIRE?


YOUNG MASTER... HOW MUCH DO YOU TRUST THE WOMAN CALLED TRINITY?
TRUST?! I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING STUPID LIKE THAT.




HE TYPES...
J! ADVANCE SEARCH FOR "GRENDEL" AND "MYTHS AND FAIRY-TALES."
253,000 SEARCH RESULTS ON GRENDEL. MOST FREQUENT HITS ARE ON THE MEDIEVAL HEROIC EPIC, "BEOWULF."

BUT...THEY WENT TO THE TROUBLE OF ANNOUNCING THEIR CODE-NAME, SO THEY MAY HAVE NAMED IT AFTER SOMETHING LIKE THAT...

YOU KNOW...THE FAIRYTALE WITH THE CANDY HOUSE...
THAT'S NOT "GRENDEL," THAT'S "HANSEL AND GRETEL," ISN'T IT?
You're a space cadet, aren't you?

I'M JUST LETTING HER DO AS SHE WANTS WHILE IT SUITS ME.
BUT, YOU KNOW, THE TOYS THE WOMAN CREATES ARE A LOT OF FUN.

...IT IS ONLY A HIGHLY UNLIKELY RUMOR.
WE ARE SEARCHING EVERYWHERE, EVEN THROUGH THE SLUMS AND HANGOUTS, BUT...

NOT YET... I AM VERY SORRY, VAMPIRE...
HEY, GIOBANNI, DID YOU FIND HIM?

AN IRON GIANT...
UN-BELIEV-ABLY STRONG...

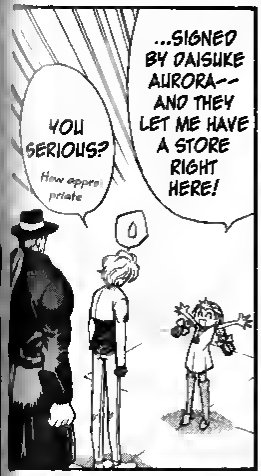
WITHIN THAT, "GRENDEL" IS PRESENTED AS AN UNBELIEVABLY STRONG, IRON-LIKE GIANT.

I GUESS HE LIKES WOLFMEN BETTER THAN MACHINES ...
SEEMS THE YOUNG MASTER STILL PREFERS PUPPIES TO TIN TOYS...
WELL, THAT'S OKAY..
I'LL SHOW HIM.
...AND THEN...
FIRST THE VAMPIRE... THEN THE FOOLISH PEOPLE OF JEWDE...
AN INVINCIBLE BEAST-MAN WITH THE FACE OF A WOLF... "BOMA"...EH?
HA HA...
SOUNDS LIKE A LOT OF FUN.
THIS COULD BE MORE AMUSING THAN SOMETHING LIKE TRINITY'S MACHINE.

THE DAY OF JEWDE'S ROBOT EXPO...
JEWDE ROBOT EXPO
WINTER AMUSEMENT SHOW
HEY, DAISUKE!
YO, MONICA! THAT'S SOME LINE OF CUSTOMERS!
YEAH! THE MISMATCH BETWEEN ROBOTS AND PHOTOS DEVELOPED ON PAPER IS A HIT...! IT'S A SUPER SUCCESS!
TEE HEE HEE.
BUT EVEN SO, I'M SURPRISED YOU GOT PERMISSION FOR A STAND SMACK IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ASSEMBLY HALL.

...THE SHADOW RULER OF JEWDE, "SHOP ECHIGO"
...
THEY'LL ALL LEARN OF MY TALENTS!

CONSTRUCTION ROBOTS USED FOR EXCAVATING THE SEA FLOOR OR FURNACE WORK BELONG IN THAT CATAGORY.
BASED ON WHAT "GRENDEL" MEANS, I THINK WE SHOULD INVESTIGATE ANYTHING WITH HARD ARMOR, EH?


...SIGNED BY DAISUKE AURORA-- AND THEY LET ME HAVE A STORE RIGHT HERE!
YOU SERIOUS?
How appropriate

I TOLD THEM I HAD A SUPER-SPECIAL RECOMMENDATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF SECURED CITY...

YEAH! WHENEVER YOU NEED ANOTHER RECOMMENDATION...
SEE YA! THANKS!
OOH! I HAVE TO GO! GOT TO GET BACK TO WORK!

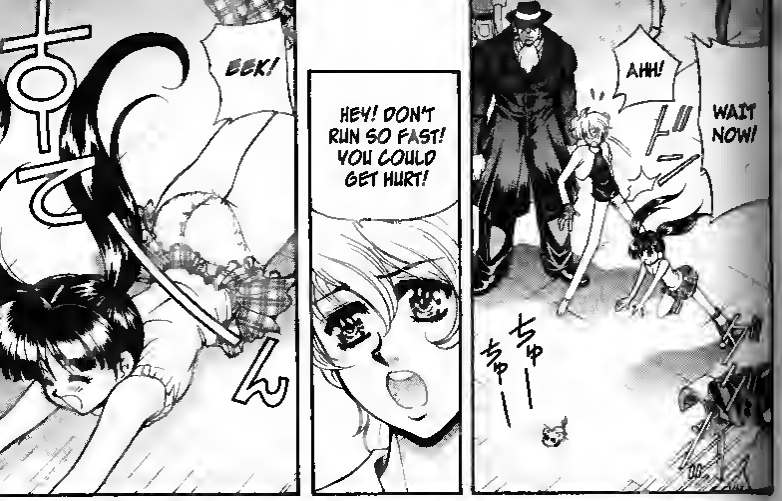
I WILL ASSIST

WELL, NOW... SHALL WE PROCEED TO "PREVENT CRIME" AND...
...GET ON WITH OUR DUTIES?

IN SUMMATION, IT MAY BE CONCLUDED THAT A MACHINE THAT WILL COME AND ATTACK US IS "ILLEGAL."
BUT THAT WON'T "PREVENT CRIME", WILL IT?

...THE MOST IMPORTANT DEFINITION IS "ONE MUST NOT LOAD A PROGRAM THAT WILL HARM HUMANS."
THE "ANDROID REGULATION LAWS" CONSIST OF 150 ARTICLES, BUT...

BUT CAN YOU TELL BY JUST LOOKING?
Welcome!
HOW DO YOU RECOGNIZE WHICH MACHINES ARE ILLEGAL..?


EEK!
HEY! DON'T RUN SO FAST! YOU COULD GET HURT!
AHH!
WAIT NOW!
ちゅー
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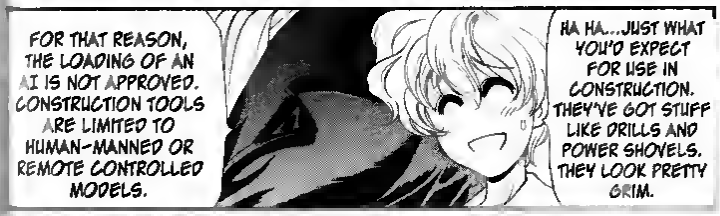
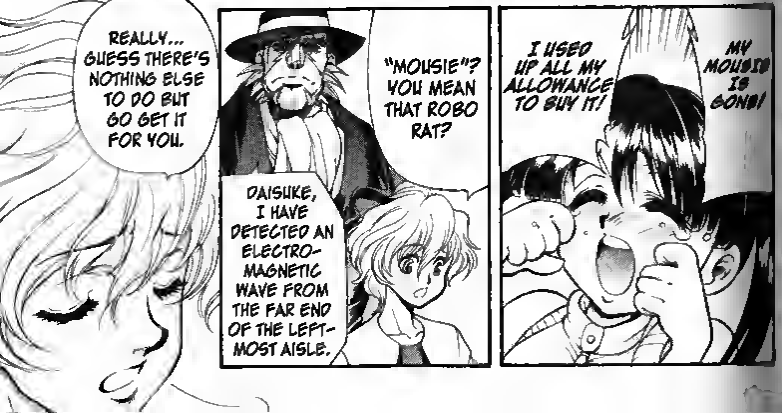
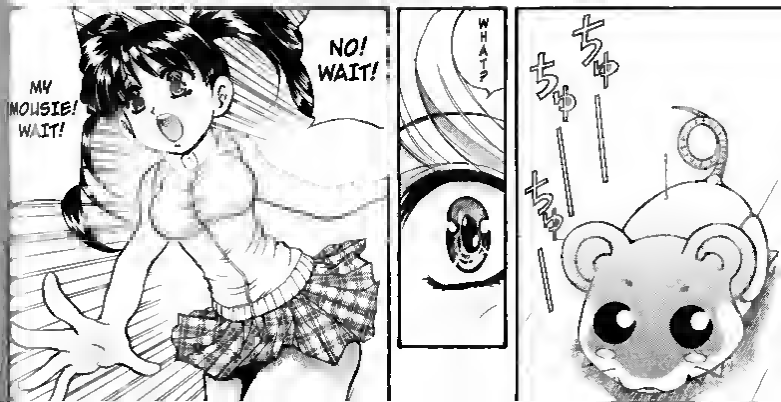
DAISUKE, THE EXHIBITION AREA FOR CONSTRUCTION ROBOTS IS FROM THIS POINT ON.
BASICALLY, THIS IS THE MOST SUSPICIOUS PLACE...

SEE, I SHOULDN'T HAVE TO SAY IT...
WAAAA! IT HURTS! IT HURTS!


FOR THAT REASON, THE LOADING OF AN AI IS NOT APPROVED. CONSTRUCTION TOOLS ARE LIMITED TO HUMAN-MANNED OR REMOTE CONTROLLED MODELS.
HA HA...JUST WHAT YOU'D EXPECT FOR USE IN CONSTRUCTION. THEY'VE GOT STUFF LIKE DRILLS AND POWER SHOVELS. THEY LOOK PRETTY GRIM.


REALLY... GUESS THERE'S NOTHING ELSE TO DO BUT GO GET IT FOR YOU.
"MOUSIE"? YOU MEAN THAT ROBO RAT?
DAISUKE, I HAVE DETECTED AN ELECTRO-MAGNETIC WAVE FROM THE FAR END OF THE LEFT-MOST AISLE.
I USED UP ALL MY ALLOWANCE TO BUY IT!
MY MOUSIE IS GONE!


MY MOUSIE! WAIT!
NO! WAIT!
WHAT?
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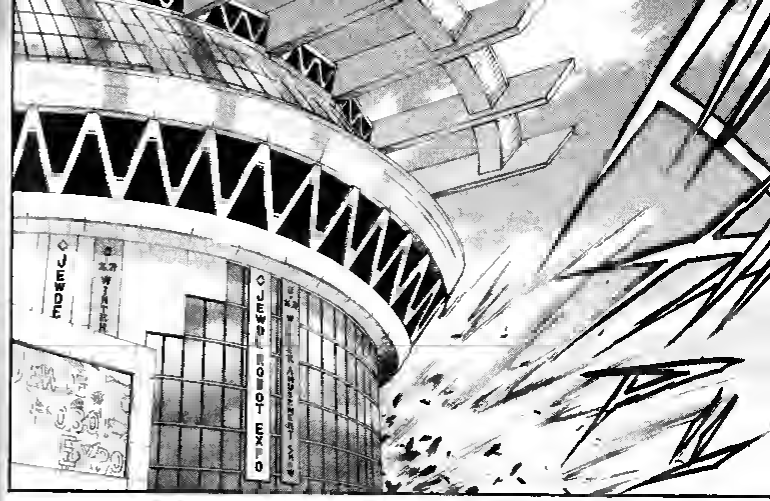
...IS YOU!
PUT ON
WHAT?!

?
THIS'S REALLY A "MOUSE IN A TRAP."
GOT IT?
REALLY... IT HAD TO GET INTO SUCH A TIGHT SPACE..
IT'S OKAY! IT'S HERE!

PUT ON

THE REAL "MOUSE IN A TRAP..."

PREPARE TO GET MINCED AND SCRAPPED!!


JEWEL
JEWEL ROBOT EXPO

A ROBOT'S GONE WILD!
A RO-BOT!
RUN!
EARTH-QUAKE?!
WHAT?
EEK!
WHOA!

"UNBELIEVABLY STRONG GIANT." THAT SUMS IT UP WELL!!
"GREN-DEL," EH?

WHAT?
IT TOOK A PUNCH FROM J AND THERE'S NOT EVEN A DENT?!

AH, WELL...IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT'S GONNA BE "PREVENT," THIS TIME, EITHER.

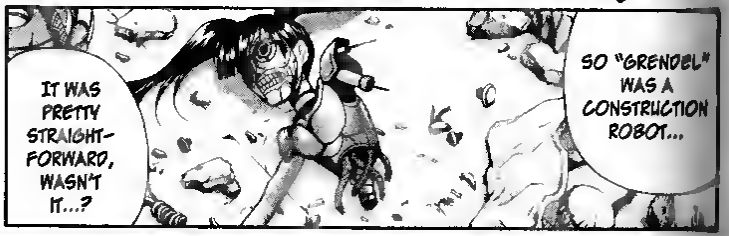
I WILL DE-STROY !!
J! GO FOR IT!

WHINNEY!
W-WHAT? WHAT'S HAPPENING?!
RUN!

パラ
パラ
パラ
WEIGHT
HMPH!
J! GO FOR THE LEG IT'S GOT ITS WEIGHT ON!

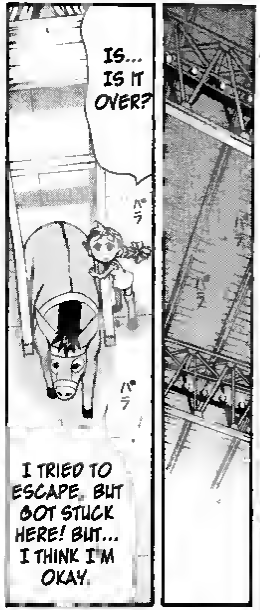
OKAY, TAKE IT EASY.
WHICH MEANS YOU CAN'T MOVE FOR THREE MINUTES, RIGHT?

I DO NOT HAVE ANY EXTERIOR DAMAGE, BUT THERE IS A POSSIBILITY I MIGHT OVERHEAT.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, J?
I WILL REQUIRE 180 SECONDS FOR COOL DOWN.

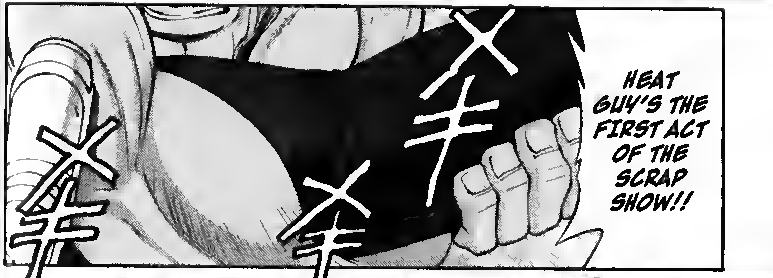

IT WAS PRETTY STRAIGHT-FORWARD, WASN'T IT...?
SO "GRENDEL" WAS A CONSTRUCTION ROBOT...

HUH, J?

AHHH!


IS... IS IT OVER?
I TRIED TO ESCAPE, BUT GOT STUCK HERE! BUT... I THINK I'M OKAY.

I'M GRENDEL, THE STEEL GIANT.
HELLO, DAISUKE AURORA.
HA HA HA !!
IT SEEMS THE TWO DECOYS WORKED WELL.
NOW...IT'S YOUR TURN...
コーン
J!!
SHOWTIME, GRENDEL!


HEAT GUY'S THE FIRST ACT OF THE SCRAP SHOW!!

HUM*H!

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J, BOOT UP! J!!

ッ!!

ゴロゴロゴロ
EEK!
THAT NOISE!
IT DIDN'T STOP?! WHAT IN THE WORLD...?
WHA?!
MISTER!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?! SNAP OUT OF IT, MISTER!!
DAISUKE?! WHAT HAPPENED TO DAISUKE?!
WHAT?!
EEK!

WHAT?!
EEK!
133 SECONDS ARE REQUIRED TO BOOT UP FROM COOL DOWN...
FROM COOL DOWN...

NO MATTER! SOON YOU'LL BE SCRAPS OF MEAT!
HUMPH! SUCH LOUD MICE!
IT WON'T MOVE!
SHIT!
IT HURTS! IT HURTS!
MONICA!
MONICA, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
!!

M-MONICA!!
!!
AAAH! IT HURTS!
MY LEG... MY LEG!

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ミシュ

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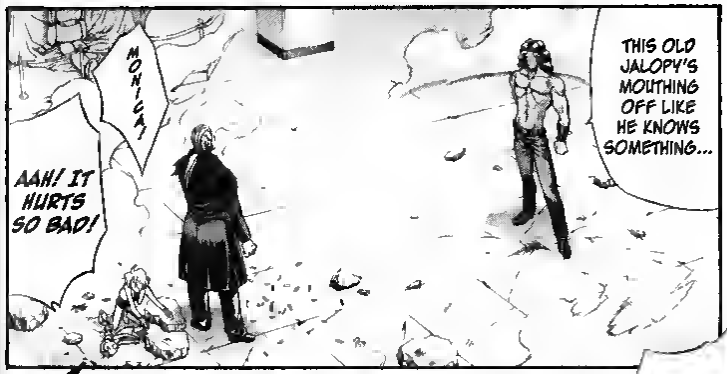
IT SHOULD TAKE ANOTHER 98 SECONDS UNTIL HE REBOOTS FROM COOL DOWN, BUT...?
WELL, WELL ...

J...?!

!!

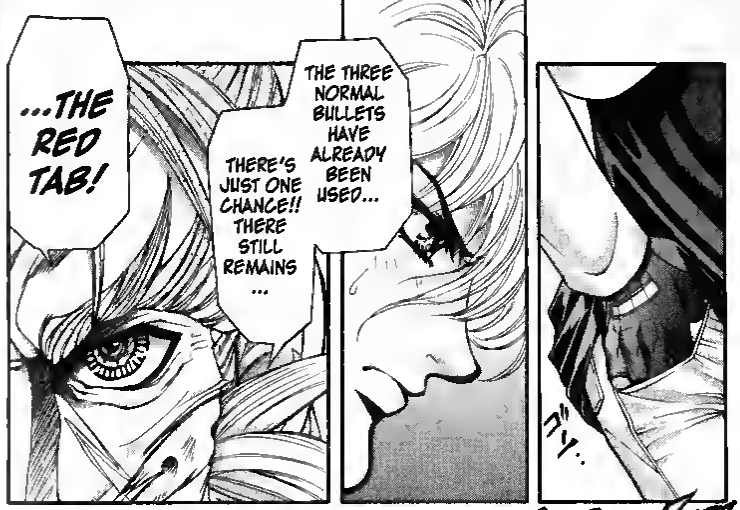
...WILL STAND UP FOR HIS FRIENDS AND THOSE WHO ARE WEAK!!
THE DEFINITION OF A MAN IS SOMEONE WHO, NO MATTER WHAT THE SITUATION MAY BE...
HA HA HA... JUST AS I HOPED...YOU TRULY ARE MAGNIFICENT, HEAT GUY.
A MAN ...
J!!
...MAYBE YOU'LL SHOW ME A SMALL MIRACLE, HMM...?
RIGHT BEFORE YOU BECOME SCRAP...

DAISUKE, LISTEN CAREFULLY!
J!!


MONICA!
AAH! IT HURTS SO BAD!
THIS OLD JALOPY'S MOUTHING OFF LIKE HE KNOWS SOMETHING...

JUST TRY AND MOVE!!
THOSE HUMANS'LL BE SWISS CHEESE!

WHA?!
SHOOT A RED TAB INTO THE BARREL OF THAT GATLING GUN!!
O...
DON'T ASK THE IM-POSSIBLE!!
I CAN'T HIT THAT ROTATING BARREL FROM THIS DISTANCE!
UNLIKE YOU, I'M HUMAN, YOU KNOW!!
DAISUKE!!
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO ACCOM-PLISH IT!
REALLY?
YOU THINK I CAN MAKE THAT SHOT? YOU'RE THE MACHINE...


...THE RED TAB!
THERE'S JUST ONE CHANCE!! THERE STILL REMAINS ...
THE THREE NORMAL BULLETS HAVE ALREADY BEEN USED...
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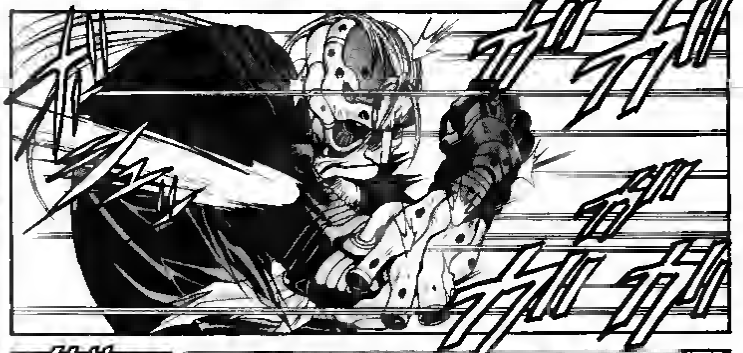
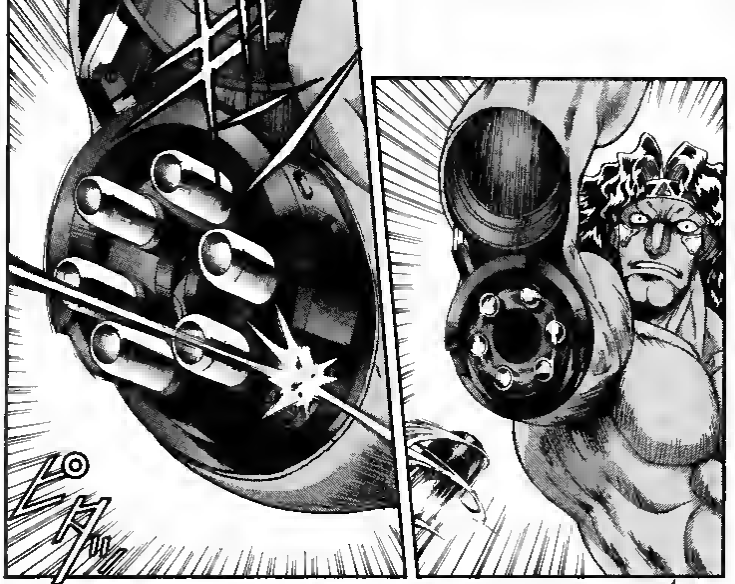


...HERE GOES!
WELL ...

USAGI
...

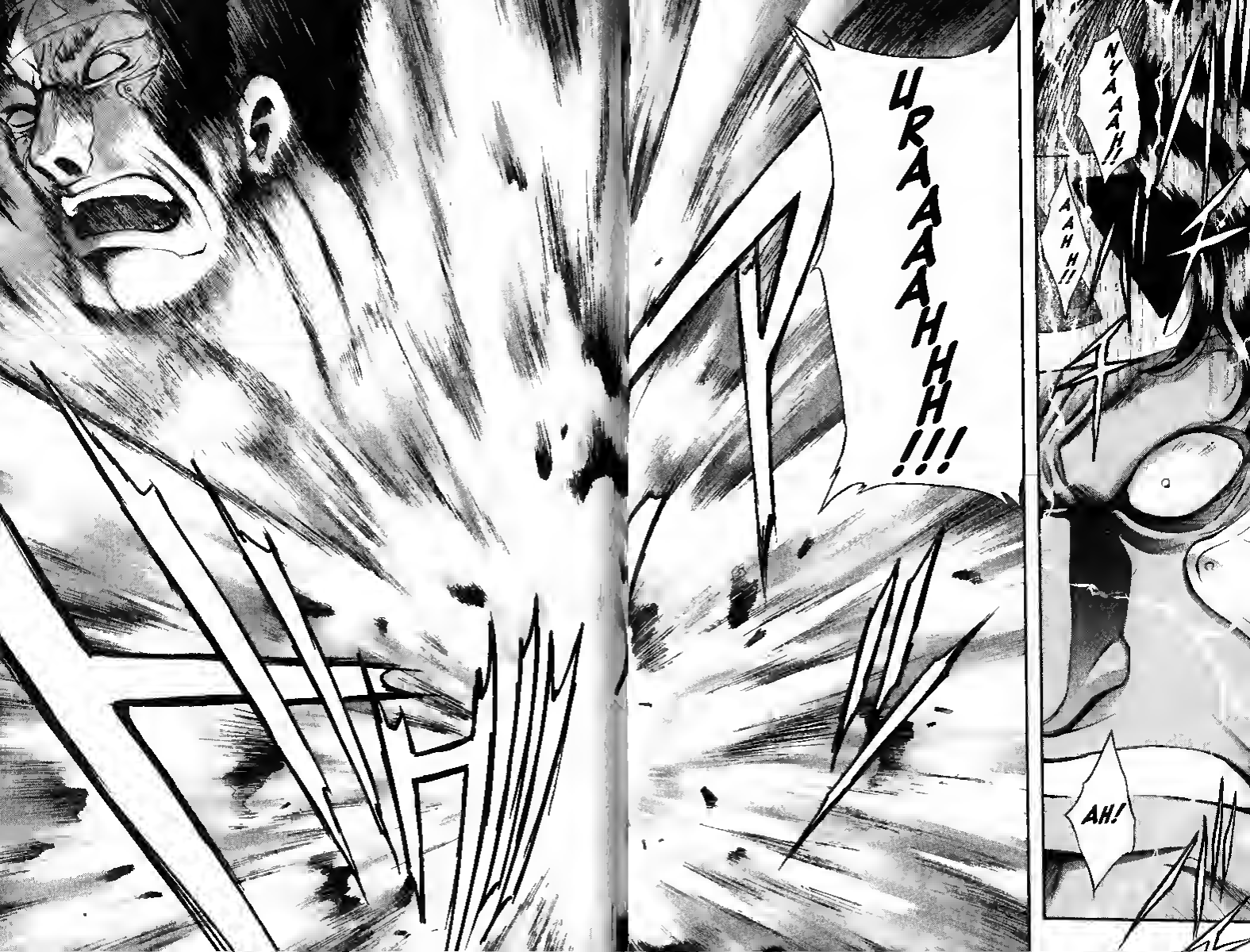
THAT'S OKAY
IT DOESN'T COUNT IF YOU HIT THE RIM!
BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT I WAS AIMING FOR, CHUMP!



HE M-MISSED ...!
!!

WHAT WERE YA AIMING FOR?!
HMM...

AAAHHH!!
!!
WHAT?!


URAAAAHHH!!!
NYAAH!!
AAH!!
AH!

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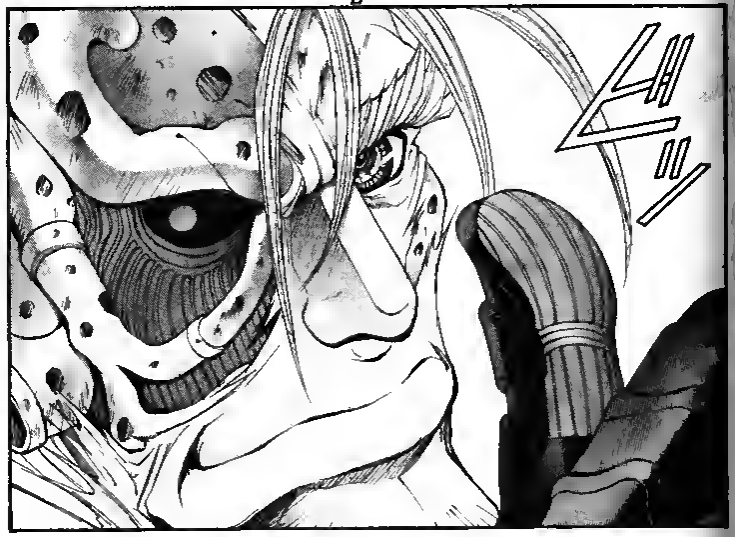
シュウシュウ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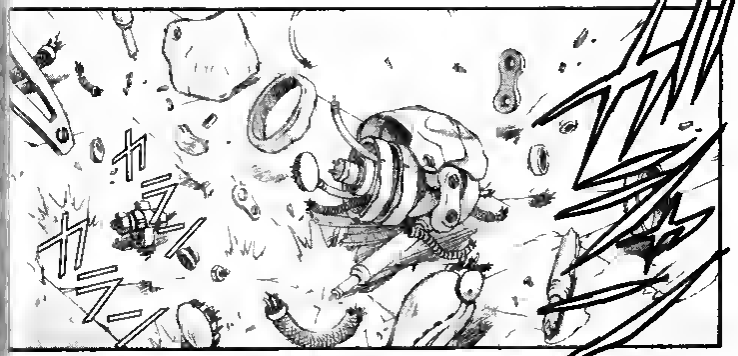
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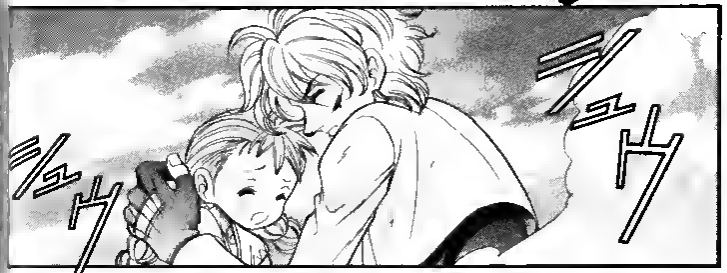
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BY SHOOTING A RED TAB THROUGH THE BARREL OF HIS GUN INTO GRENDEL'S BODY...

...HE INITIATED THE DESTRUCTION FROM THE INSIDE.

THEN, THE ADDITION OF THE IMPACT FROM J'S PUNCH...

...CAUSED A SECONDARY EXPLOSION.

HA HA HA!!

NO MATTER HOW HARD GRENDEL'S ARMOR WAS, HIS INNARDS DIDN'T STAND A CHANCE.

WELL, THOSE BOYS DO GIVE A GIRL A RUN FOR HER MONEY...

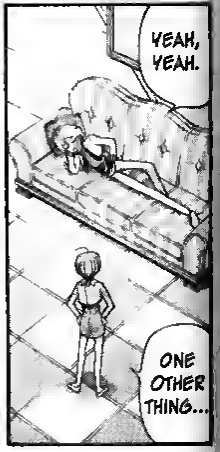
HEAT GUY AND THE BOY FROM THE SPECIAL SERVICE... IT SEEMS I'LL BE ABLE TO HAVE FUN WITH THEM FOR A LITTLE WHILE LONGER.

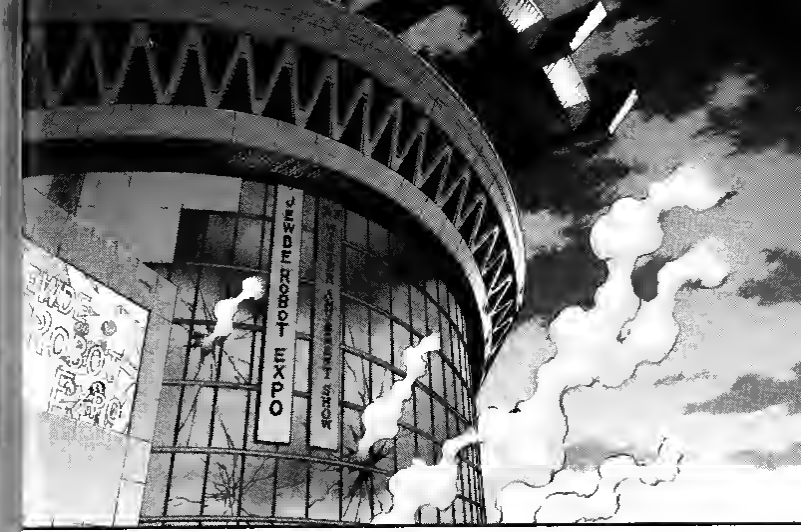
...OUR OWN LIVES WERE SAVED.
DON'T GET ALL MAD LIKE THAT. THANKS TO THAT ONE BULLET, LITTLE MONICA AND...

YOU MUST SUBMIT THEM, A.S.A.P.!
WELL, TODAY I NEED ALL OUTSTANDING SETTLEMENT AND ACTION REPORTS!

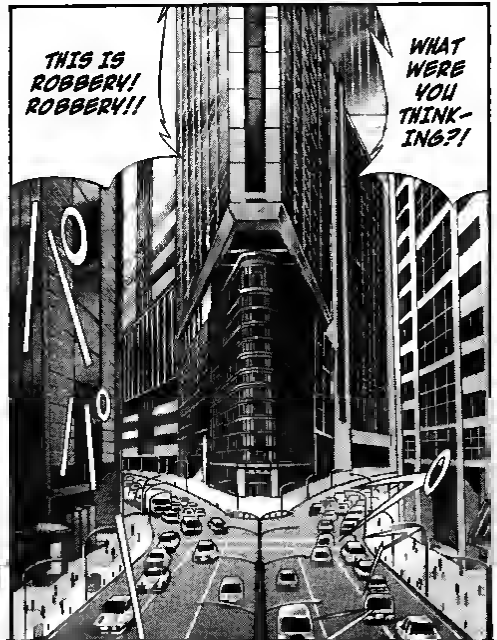
W-WELL, YOU MIGHT BE HAPPIER IF PROFESSOR ANTONIA GAVE THIS TO YOU RATHER THAN ME, BUT...

WHAT IS IT? IS THERE STILL SOME-THING ELSE?
もじもじ...


YEAH, YEAH.
ONE OTHER THING...


JEWBE ROBOT EXPO

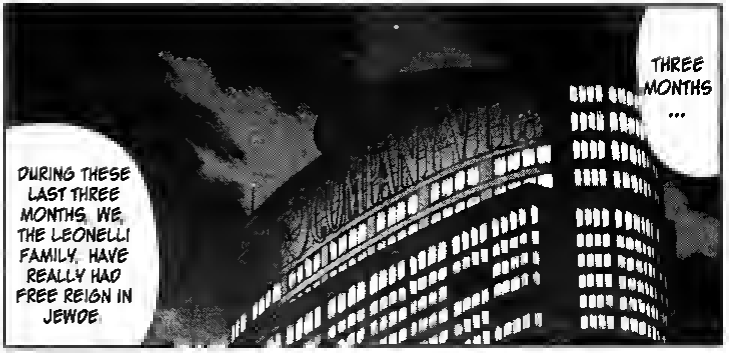
YOU TOOK OUT ONE MORE BULLET THAN REGULATED!!
WHY DO YOU THINK PEOPLE PAY SUCH HEAVY TAXES?!


THIS IS ROBBERY! ROBBERY!!
WHAT WERE YOU THINK-ING?!

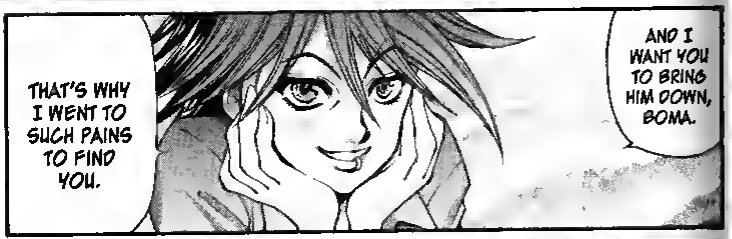
IF YOU WERE HUMAN, IT'D TAKE A LIFETIME TO MAKE A COMPLETE RECOVERY.
...AND THAT, PLUS THE UPPER PORTION OF THE LEFT ARM IS DESTROYED.
...IF IT WILL MAKE YOU HAPPY... I'LL STOP BLAMING DAI.
J...IT'S HARD FOR ME TO SEE YOU LIKE THIS, BUT...
...YOUR FACE IS SO VERY HAPPY...
YOU'RE SO WORN OUT, BUT...
GOOD NIGHT, J...
SWEET DREAMS...

THERE'S A CUT... ON YOUR CHEEK.
HERE...
THANK YOU.

HE?
WHY'S THAT?
'CAUSE HE'S COME BACK.


THREE MONTHS...
DURING THESE LAST THREE MONTHS, WE, THE LEONELLI FAMILY, HAVE REALLY HAD FREE REIGN IN JEWOE.

VAMPIRE...
YOUNG MASTER


AND I WANT YOU TO BRING HIM DOWN, BOMA.
THAT'S WHY I WENT TO SUCH PAINS TO FIND YOU.

...IT MIGHT NOT ALWAYS BE THIS WAY.

BUT YOU KNOW.

AND IT MIGHT GET A LITTLE "HOT" FOR YOU...

THERE'S ALSO AN IRRITATING PAIR I NEED TAKEN CARE OF...
...

...HE HEADED OUT UNUSUALLY HAPPY, DIDN'T HE?
OH, DAISUKE!
ARE THE BIG MISTER'S INJURIES ALL BETTER?
YO, DAISUKE. I HEAR YOUR PARTNER'S COMING BACK, EH?
OH... DAISUKE?
I JUST GOT WORD FROM PROFESSOR ANTONIA, AND GUESS WHAT?
THAT DAISUKE...

I WANT YOU TO KILL A COUPLE OF HEAT GUYS.

A MAN SHOULD NOT BE CONCERNED WITH APPEARANCES.
SO... THEY WEREN'T ABLE TO FIX THAT PREACHY ATTITUDE, HUH?
REALLY ...
MAIN-TENANCE IS NOT REQUIRED
THIS ATTITUDE IS PART OF ME

YOU'RE LOOKING BETTER THAN EVER.
YO, PARTNER.
SHE SAID J'S COMING BACK!

This appeared in the December.2002 edition of Magazine Z.

J-HOT PAPER

ANIME MONTHLY INFORMATION

What is the mystery surrounding the Department of Secured City's Special Service?!

HOT GUYS

GENERAL MANAGER

AUDITOR

EMPLOYEE

MACHINE

DAISUKE'S GUN

The Special Service branch office is under the control of the Department of Secured City Central Headquarters, but there are only three employees! First there's Daisuke, the cocky young officer. Then there's the arrogant Miss Milchan, the Service's auditor (though most of her time is spent keeping an eye on Daisuke). The last member of this strange group is a stern giant that is Daisuke's partner--though according to some gossip, this member is actually an android. Isn't that crazy? Of course, if that were true, it would have to have some kind special exemption, since androids are illegal in the city. Further evidence to back this claim would be that Daisuke's superior, the General Manager of Central Headquarters, is also his close brother. Connecting the dots yet? That would also explain why their cases are shrouded in mystery. It is rumored Daisuke uses a pistol (regular ammunition and an explosive Red Tag shell) when necessary, so they're definitely licensed to kill. Their duties are to prevent crime, yet Daisuke seems to be competing with Inspector Edmundo. Whateves the truth may be, one thing is certain--we won't be able to take our eyes off the Special Service for a while!

Those Who Rule Jewde's Black Markets

BAD GUYS?

CLAIR LEONELLI

Anyone notice how dangerous Jewde has grown lately? Not only is the air filled with bullets, but the bombing incidents continue to occur. The chaos has only intensified since 19 year-old Clair Leonelli succeeded his dear father as the boss of his family's criminal organization. It's rumored the young don is the one who's pulling the strings behind the incidents plaguing the city, but that's not all. Clair is also said to be the chairman of Company Vita (a.k.a. Vampire), which many believe controls much of Jewde from the shadows. He also uses beast-men and androids as tools in his crimes, so he's a pretty scary dude. Will we see an end to this trouble anytime soon? One can only hope!

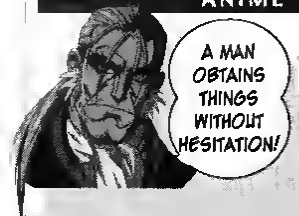
Episode 5	Doll	A young boy attacks J. The boy is an android acting on Clair's orders.
Episode 6	Money	Clair plots to make a big profit controlling the futures trading market.
Episode 7	Circulation	Daisuke goes underground in search of a lost item dropped in a canal.
Episode 8	Brother	The relationship between Daisuke and his elder brother is examined.

HEAT GUY J FIN

THIS APPEARED IN THE FEBRUARY 2003 EDITION

J-HOT PAPER

ANIME MONTHLY INFORMATION



Is The Rift Between Headquarters and Special Service A Squabble Between Siblings? (Shun vs Daisuke)?!

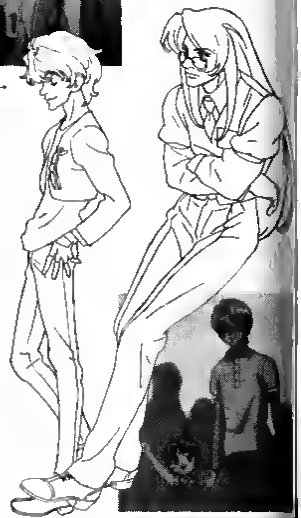
Shun and Daisuke's relationship is definitely a rocky one. It's not surprising, considering their father, who was a politician, was assassinated by the Leonelli family 18 years ago. Throw in the rumor that their mother was a Heavenly Being... and you can understand why they're so edgy. Let's all hope, for the city's sake, that they can resolve their differences.

HEAT GUY J

ANIME AVAILABLE NOW!

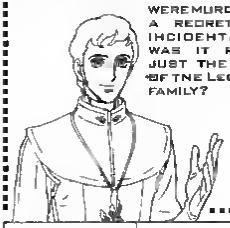
Though Shun, who exudes authority, and Daisuke, who hates authority, constantly disagree, there is still a chance that the bond between the two brothers can bring them even closer together under the right circumstances.

When they were children, Shun and Daisuke witnessed their father's assassination by an android. Was Clair's late father responsible, or was there someone else behind the dastardly deed?



Heavenly Beings Come and Go!

The Heavenly Beings, creators of the seven cities of the planet, have come back to Jewoe after an 18 year absence to provide maintenance to Jewoe's circulation system. This results in an incident where 12 Heavenly Beings were murdered. A regrettable incident...but was it really just the work of the Leonelli family?



Episode 14	ARROW	Daisuke meets a princess from a village near Jewoe.
Episode 15	TARGET	As the Leonelli family faces annihilation, Shuh is shot and falls into a coma.
Episode 16	SURVIVAL	In an "independant" village outside Jewoe, Daisuke and J are attacked by a female machine.
Episode 17	INDEPENDENCE	Shun announces the closing of the Special Service.

THIS APPEARED IN THE JANUARY 2003 EDITION

J-HOT PAPER

ANIME MONTHLY INFORMATION

The reason why J was created remains a mystery. The above picture hypothesizes what his true face really looks like. But don't get too close, or you'll be lectured.

Crime Soars As Rumors Continue About Machines in Jewoe!

Is there a legal Android among us?

The city streets continue to be painted with innocent blood as criminals continue their devious activities! Rumors how say that the Leonelli Family has their eyes on market control and the illegal manufacture of arms. One particularly disturbing story is how Machines (the so-called humanoid robots, Anoroids) seem to be popping up more and more. For example--the illegal immigrant that murdered the restaurant's owner downtown (Misha, who appeared in Episode Number One) and the man who assaulted the Sect Research Laboratory and killed a security guard (Teto, who appeared in Episode Number Five) are both rumored to have been machines.

When Angel Diva Cards were circulating through the city (Episode Number Three), Antonia was selected as a special card. In actuality, she's an employee of Sect. She's also rumored to be in charge of the legal Android program. Basically, she could be J's mother.

It's common knowledge that Daisuke and Shun's (Daisuke's boss and older brother) father was murdered by a machine 18 years ago. As a result, the "Android Regulation Laws" was enacted, designed to eliminate all machines once and for all. However, illegal Anoroids have been appearing, and as I told you last month, one may even be in the employ of the Special Service. So are the laws regulating Anoroids redundant?

It seems it was J who defeated the murderous machine called "Misha." Misha was definitely not something the police could have handled.

Beast Man Sightings!

How, not only do we have to worry about Anoroids but "Beast Men" as well. Beast Men are the results of experimenting on the most vicious criminals, reshaping their faces into those of beasts! One of these "Beast Men" is called Soma, and his remarkable abilities are still unknown. He wears a holographic human face over his grotesque one. There will probably be more sightings of him, so if you see the face in the photo above, report it to the police immediately!

Episode 9	TRUST	Monica's mother is taken in by a gang of smugglers producing forged passports.
Episode 10	GUNS	While investigating a bomb threat, Daisuke meets Kyoko's grandfather, a colonel in the reserve army.
Episode 11	MIRAGE	Inspector Edmundo's former lover is charged with serial murders...and Daisuke is on the case!
Episode 12	VISITOR	The Heavenly Beings who created Jewoe return and speculations on good and evil begin to surface.
Episode 13	ENCOUNTER	Clair kidnaps one of the Heavenly Beings. Daisuke and J rush to the rescue amidst a computer crisis.

TBS毎週火曜日深夜25時5

J-HOT PAPER

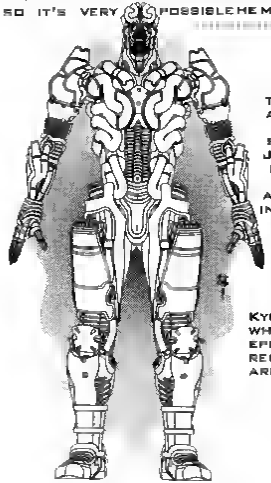
ANIME MONTHLY INFORMATION

FINAL TOPICS

"ECHIGO" IS A FAKE?! JEWDE'S IN TROUBLE!

THE RUMOR THAT MR. ECHIGO CONTROLS NOT ONLY THE CORRORATE GIANT "ECHIGO," BUT THE CITY OF JEWDE ITSELF, IS A FAKE! IT APPEARS THAT THE REAL ECHIGO WAS ASSASSINATED FOUR YEARS AGO!! IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN IT CAN ALSO BE ASSUMED THAT THE GUY WHO'S PASSING AS THE CURRENT MR. ECHIGO IS THE MURDERER!! I CAN'T THINK THAT THIS "FAKE" ECHIGO WILL SIT STILL AND WAIT FOR THIS INFORMATION TO GO PUBLIC, SO IT'S VERY POSSIBLE HE MIGHT TAKE EXTREME MEASURES...

AS THE NEW VAMBEE PARLIAMENT MEMBER NORIEGA HOLDS THE KEY TO JEWDE'S BLACK MARKET



DURING THE CLIMAX, WILL THERE BE A HEROIC BATTLE BETWEEN J AND J'S REPLICA, WHO APPEARED IN EPISODE NUMBER 19

GO TEAM! DAISUKE, J, FORMER INSPECTOR EDMUNDO AND BOMA THE BEAST-MAN ARE WORKING TOGETHER?! CRAZY, BUT TRUE! IF THAT WASN'T ENOUGH, THE LEONELLI FAMILY SURVIVORS MAY BE FOOLING HELP FROM THEIR CRIMINAL UNDERWORLD AS WELL. AS THE FINAL BATTLE DRAWS NEAR, THE CITY COLLECTIVELY HOLDS ITS BREATH...

KYOKO'S GRANDFATHER, WHO MADE A SPLASH IN EPISODE NUMBER 10, REMODELED THIS OLD ARMORED VEHICLE.

THE CITY'S IDOL IS ONLY 10 YEARS OLD!

10

WHEN SOMEONE SAYS, "THE ANGEL OF KABUKI ROAD," WE ALL KNOW IT'S THE YOUNG GIRL WHO RUNS A PAPER DEVELOPED PHOTO SHOP FROM A WAGON PULLED BY A DONKEY! MISS MONICA GABRIEL. MONICA IS VERY POPULAR BECAUSE OF HER CUTENESS AND HER COURAGE.

EPISODE 22	PLAY	MONICA'S WAGON BURNS AND DAISUKE BRINGS HER INTO THE BRANCH OFFICE...WHERE SHE SELECTS A FATHER?!
EPISODE 23	ALTERATION	GIOBANNI, COMMISSIONED BY SHOGUN, MOVES TO ASSASSINATE SHUN!
EPISODE 24	REVOLUTION	J ASSAULTS DAISUKE!!
EPISODE 25	GUYS	JEWDE IS PUT UNDER MARTIAL LAW.

J-HOT PAPER

ANIME MONTHLY INFORMATION

CONSPIRACY INVOLVING PARLIAMENT MEMBER NORIEGA?!

SCOOP!

EVEN NORIEGA HAS TO SUBMIT TO ORDERS FROM ECHIGO

CAN THE SPECIAL SERVICE SOLVE THE PUZZLE?

PARLIAMENT MEMBER NORIEGA IS ALSO AN EXECUTIVE OF VITA, AN ENTERPRISE THAT TEAMED UP WITH A CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION

THE PERSON IN THE PICTURE ABOVE IS THE PRESIDENT OF "ECHIGO," THE ENORMOUS CORPORATE GIANT THAT PRODUCES MOST OF THE MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS IN JEWDE. WHEN I STARTED INVESTIGATING THE PEOPLE SURROUNDING PARLIAMENT MEMSER NORIEGA, I DISCOVERED THAT MR. ECHIGO MAINTAINS CLOSE CONTACT WITH HIM. PARLIAMENT MEMBER NORIEGA IS A VERY SUSPICIOUS CHARACTER WHO'S RUMORED TO HAVE CLOSE TIES WITH THE CRIMINAL UNDERWORLD. THE LEONELLI FAMILY'S PROSECUTION IS RUMORED TO SE DUE TO NORIEGA'S BETRAYAL.

BY ORDER OF ECHIGO, THE LEONELLI FAMILY, ASSASSINATED SHUN AND DAISUKE'S FATHER ISOTTOM (RIGHT). SHUN VOWED TO TAKE REVENGE ON ECHIGO, AND BECAUSE OF HIS FEELINGS OF RESENTMENT FOR HIS ELDER BROTHER, DAISUKE CONTINUES TO GO AFTER ECHIGO IN HIS OWN WAY. BUT IN EPISODE 17, SHUN TELLS DAISUKE OF THE CLOSURE OF THE SPECIAL SERVICE, AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO TAKES A SUDDEN TURN.

HAVE YOU SEEN "HIME"?!

THE PRETTY GIRL THAT WE FOUND WANDERING IN THE CITY THIS MONTH HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A WILD-YET-CULTURED YOUNG LADY (THE GUEST FROM EPISODE 14). DAISUKE OF THE SPECIAL SERVICE HAD BEEN CALLING HER "HIME," BUT IT SEEMS SHE HAD COME FROM A VILLAGE OUTSIDE OF JEWDE. THERE ALSO SEEM TO BE A LOT OF GUYS WHO REGRET THAT SHE QUICKLY DISAPPEARED FROM THE CITY.

EPISODE 18	TRUTH	SOMA IS TARGETED BY A BRAINWASHER WHO FOCUSES ON BEAST-MEN AND DAISUKE MUST CONFRONT HIM!
EPISODE 19	FAKE	ANTONIA IS FIRED AND A MACHINE THAT LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE J BEGINS A CRIME SPREE IN JEWDE.
EPISODE 20	TEARS	EDMUNDO PURSUES A SUSPECT AFTER HIS SENIOR DETECTIVE, ROMEO, IS MURDERED
EPISODE 21	FORTRESS	THE SPECIAL SERVICE, WITH BOMA, ANTONIA AND EDMUNDO, JOURNEY TO "THE WITCH'S ISLAND."

ON A CERTAIN PLANET, THERE WERE SEVEN GIGANTIC CITIES; THE MOST UNIQUE OF THESE WAS...

...THE MAN-MADE CITY -JEWDE-

THIS APPEARED IN THE APRIL 2003 EDITION.

SPECIAL FOLLOW UP REPORT!

TROUBLESOME RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN TROUBLESOME PEOPLE?!

DAISUKE

SHUN

THE FINAL BATTLE WITH ECHIDO WILL BECOME DAISUKE'S GREATEST TRIAL. WILL SHUN BE THERE IN THE END FOR HIS BROTHER?

J

BOMA

J AND BOMA WILL DEFEND DAISUKE UNTIL THE BITTER END. THOUGH THEY ARE OPPOSITES, THE TWO FORGE A MUTUAL BOND OF RESPECT.

CLAIR

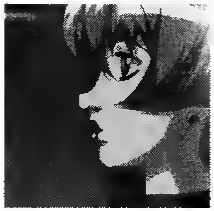
GIOBANNI

GIOBANNI'S DEVOTION FINALLY AWAKENED CLAIR, WHO HAD LOST HIS SOUL. THE TWO SETTLE THINGS WITH THEIR OLD ENEMY NORIEGA, AND STAND AGAINST THE REBEL ARMY.

MONICA

EDMUNDO

THE MIDDLE AGED MAN, WHO'S THE MOST AWKWARD DETECTIVE IN THE NEW SPECIAL SERVICE, DISPLAYS UNUSUAL KINDNESS TO THE SPUNKY LITTLE GIRL AND HER UNRELIABLE MOTHER.

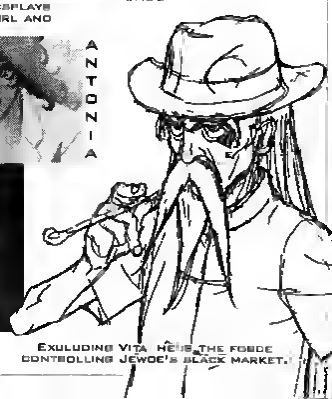


KYOKO

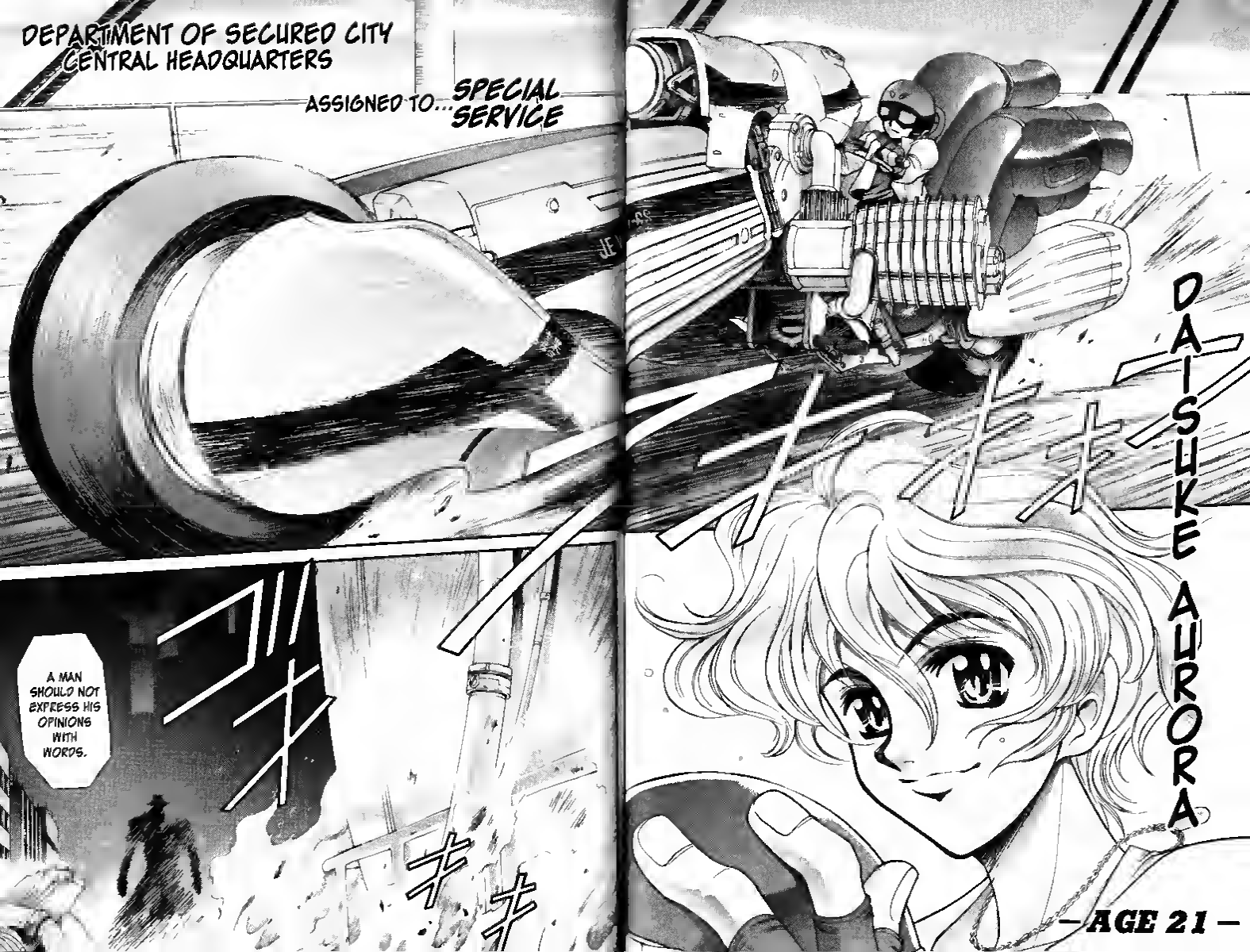
KYOKO, WHO HAS DEVELOPED FEELINGS FOR DAISUKE, HAS ALSO COME INTO HER OWN AS A PARTNER IN THE SERVICE. ANTONIA SHAPED J'S IMAGE INTO THAT OF HER BELOVED FATHER, AND HAS AFFECTION FOR BOMA. THEN PHIA ARRIVES, AND THE MYSTERY BEHIND HER IDENTITY IS REVEALED TO SHUN. DUBBING DAISUKE AND CREW'S BATTLE, THE HEROINES REALLY RALLY! BEHIND THE CAUSE.

ANTONIA

PHIA



EXCLUDING VITA HE IS THE FORCE CONTROLLING JEWDE'S BLACK MARKET.


DEPARTMENT OF SECURED CITY
CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS
ASSIGNED TO... SPECIAL SERVICE
A MAN SHOULD NOT EXPRESS HIS OPINIONS WITH WORDS.
DAISUKE AURORA
— AGE 21 —

MACHINES KILL PEOPLE, TOO, DON'T THEY?
IF PROGRAMMED, IT IS EXECUTED
HE SHOULD ILLUSTRATE THEM WITH ACTIONS!!
DAISUKE'S PARTNER -J-
Height 230cm
Weight 0.3t
—ANDROID—

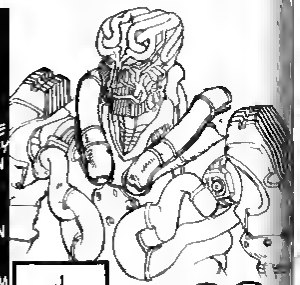
J

A MAN MUST BE READY TO GIVE HIS LIFE AT ALL TIMES.

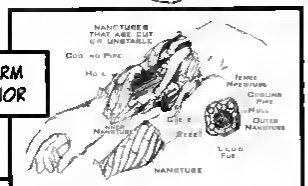
APPEARANCE OF A 40 YEAR OLD HUMAN

HEIGHT 230 CM
WEIGHT 0.3T

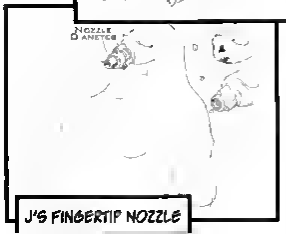
IN THIS AGE WHERE ANDROIDS ARE ILLEGAL, HE WAS CREATED IN SECRET BY AN UNLIKELY COMBINATION OF A GOVERNMENT FACILITY AND A CIVILIAN ENTERPRISE. THERE ARE NO PROBLEMS WITH HUMAN CLASS MOVEMENTS, BUT WHEN RUNNING AT FULL SPEED (5 SPEEDS OF 100KM ARE POSSIBLE) A LARGE AMOUNT OF STEAM HAS TO BE VENTED BECAUSE OF THE HEAT GENERATED. FROM THE SIGHT OF HIM APPEARING IN A CLOUD OF STEAM, PEOPLE CALL HIM "HEAT GUY" J.



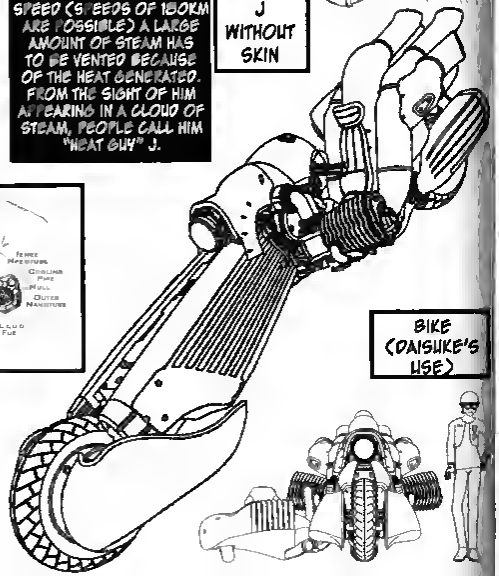
J WITHOUT SKIN



J'S ARM INTERIOR



J'S FINGERTIP NOZZLE



BIKE (DAISUKE'S USE)

HEAT GUY J

ヒートガイ　ジェイ

ANIMATION CHARACTERS

アニメーション　キャラクターズ

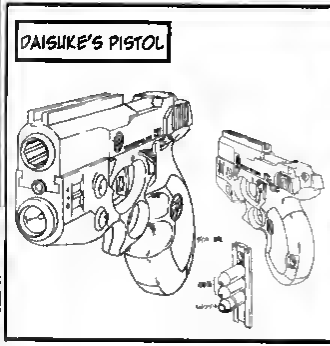
HEAT GUY J ANIME PRODUCTION SKETCHES

DAISUKE AURORA

始末書後で書くよ

I'LL WRITE MY MANAGEMENT REPORTS... LATER.

DAISUKE'S PISTOL



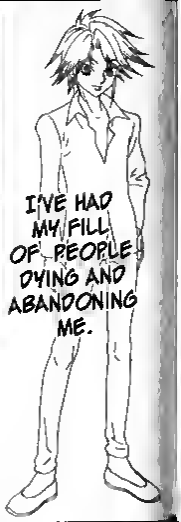
21 YEARS OLD
DEPARTMENT OF SECURED CITY, CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS
SPECIAL SERVICE EMPLOYEE

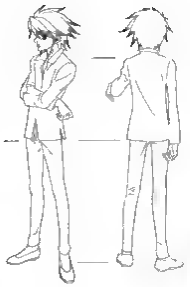
ON THE SURFACE, HE SEEMS LIKE SOMEONE WHO'S LAZY AND HAS A WEAK WORK ETHIC. HOWEVER, HE'S ALSO COMPASSIONATE AND POSSESSES A FIERCE SENSE OF RIGHT, BUT HE'S RELUCTANT TO LET IT SHOW. HIS FATHER WAS A POLITICIAN WHO WAS MURDERED BY TERRORISTS. HIS MOTHER THEN MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED. THE BULLET PENDANT AROUND HIS NECK IS A MEMENTO OF HIS FATHER'S DEATH.

CLAIR LEONELLI

19 YEARS OLD
COMPANY VITA'S BOSS

HE IS THE BOSS OF "COMPANY VITA." HE BEARS THE CODENAME "VAMPIRE." HE IS ALSO THE SECOND GENERATION DON OF THE LEONELLI CRIME EMPIRE. A POSITION HE INHERITED FROM HIS FATHER. EVEN WITH ALL THAT POWER, THOUGH, HE STILL SUFFERS FROM AN INFERIORITY COMPLEX.





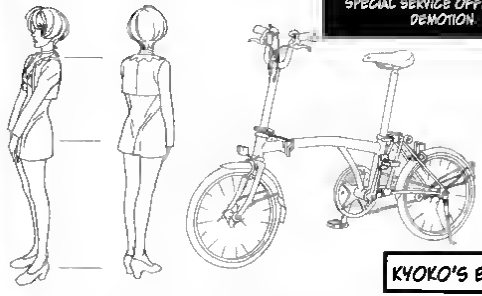
AS AN ADVISOR, HE'S WORKED FOR THE LEONELLI FAMILY THROUGH PREVIOUS GENERATIONS AND NOW BACKS CLAIR.

MAURO

KYOKO MILCHAN

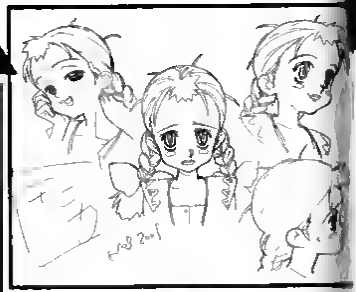
22 YEARS OLD
DEPARTMENT OF SECURED CITY CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS
SPECIAL SERVICES AUDITOR A.K.A. ACCOUNTANT A.K.A. ODD JOBS

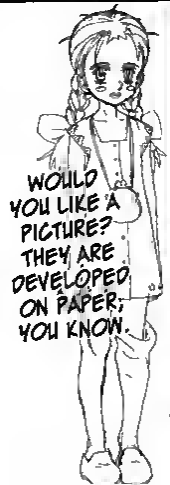
A STRAIGHT-LACED STICKLER FOR THE RULES, SHE NURTURES A LOVE FOR DAISUKE'S ELDER BROTHER SHUN. SHE IS ALWAYS STRESSED BECAUSE SHE'S CONSTANTLY CHASING DAISUKE. SHE THINKS HER ASSIGNMENT TO THE SPECIAL SERVICE OFFICE WAS A DEMOTION.



KYOKO'S BICYCLE

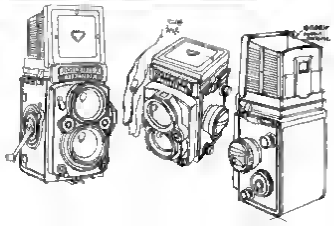
MONICA GABRIEL



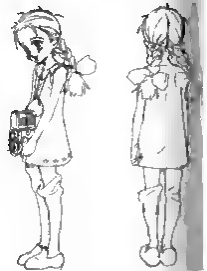


10 YEARS OLD
PHOTOGRAPHER

WHILE TAKING CARE OF HER SICK MOTHER, SHE CONDUCTS HER BUSINESS AS A PHOTOGRAPHER FROM A WAGON PULLED BY A DONKEY. IN THIS AGE, PICTURES DEVELOPED ON PAPER ARE A LUXURY ITEM AND A LOST ART. SHE HAS ACCUMULATED DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE AREA AND BUSINESS TRENDS, SO AT TIMES SHE BECOMES A VALUABLE SOURCE OF INFORMATION FOR DAISUKE.



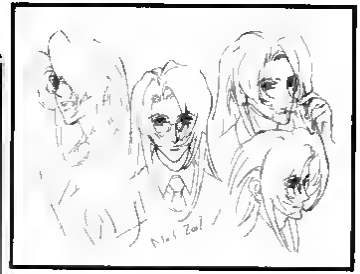
CAMERA



SHUN AURORA

27 YEARS OLD.
GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIVE OFFICE
DEPARTMENT OF SECURED CITY CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS
GENERAL MANAGER

DAISUKE'S BROTHER TAKES PRIDE IN HIS RATIONAL AND LOGICAL WAY OF THINKING. EVEN THOUGH HE RAISED DAISUKE IN PLACE OF HIS PARENTS, SHUN TREATS DAISUKE IN SUCH A WAY THAT MAKES ONE QUESTION IF THEY ARE RELATED. SHUN IS DAISUKE'S SUPERIOR AND IT IS HE WHO PARTNERED DAISUKE WITH J.



SHUN'S CAR

BOMA

BEAST-MAN FORM

WHERE ARE YOU, USAGI..

HUMAN FORM

25 YEARS OLD

A MYSTERIOUS REFUGEE WHO IS LOOKING FOR HIS YOUNGER SISTER. AS PUNISHMENT FOR A TERRIBLE CRIME HE ONCE COMMITTED, BOMA'S FACE WAS RECONSTRUCTED WITH BESTIAL FEATURES. BOMA DISGUISES HIMSELF WITH A HUMAN-LIKE HOLOGRAPHIC MASK. HIS SWORDSMANSHIP AND REFLEXES ARE BORDERLINE SUPERHUMAN. WHILE HE HAS SERVED CLAIR, THERE ARE TIMES WHEN HE HAS SAVED DAISUKE.

KEN EDMUNDO

YOU IDIOT!!

33 YEARS OLD

GALEA POLICE STATION, INSPECTOR

A DETECTIVE WHO WORKS THE CRIME SCENES. HE HATES THE SPECIAL SERVICE BECAUSE HE BELIEVES THEY GET IN HIS WAY.

ANTONIA BELLUCCI

24 YEARS OLD

SECT EMPLOYEE

AN EMPLOYEE OF THE CIVILIAN ENTERPRISE "SECT," SHE J'S "MOTHER" STILL MOURNING THE DEATH OF HER FATHER AT AN EARLY AGE. J'S THOUGHT PATTERNS (AMONG OTHER THINGS) ARE SHADOWS OF HER FATHER'S IMAGE. DAISUKE NURTURES A BURNING LOVE FOR ANTONIA.

DON'T HURT J UNNECESSARILY!

SHOGUN

72 YEARS OLD

OWNER OF A DRY GOODS STORE, DOWNTOWN

AT ONE TIME, HE WAS THE BOSS OF THE BUTOU MAFIA FACTION. BUT HE'S NOW RETIRED. HOWEVER HE STILL KEEPS TABS ON INFORMATION CONCERNING THE UNDERGROUND. DAISUKE RESPECTS SHOGUN AND OFTEN COMES TO HIM FOR LEADS ON CASES

DAISUKE, YOU'D BETTER BE TAKING MY ADVICE, EH?

CHARACTER COMPARISON FIGURE

THESE ARE THE GUYS THAT TURN THE HEAT UP IN JEWDE.

FROM THE LEFT: GIOBANNI, MITCHAL, IAN, ROMEO, MAURO, CLAIR, SHOGUN. EDMUNDO, J, DAISUKE, ANTONIA, KYOKO, SHUN, MONICA, PHIA, BOMA (HUMAN FORM), BOMA (BEAST-MAN FORM), THREE GIRLS

THE THREE GIRLS

DAI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

THE THREE GIRLS' BAGS

FOR CYNTHIA'S USE

FOR VIVIAN'S USE

FOR JANIS' USE

THE THREE GIRLS WORK ON KABUKI ROAD. SENSITIVE TO WORK-RELATED TRENDS AND GOSSIP, AT TIMES THEY PROVIDE DAISUKE WITH IMPORTANT INFORMATION. THE THREE OF THEM ARE SERIOUSLY TRYING TO ENTICE DAISUKE, BUT HE ALWAYS BLOWS THEM OFF.

CYNTHIA (20 YEARS OLD)	JANIS (21 YEARS OLD)	VIVIAN (19 YEARS OLD)

PHIA OLIVEIRA

AFTER ALL HE IS YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER...

24 YEARS OLD

CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS

GENERAL MANAGER'S SECRETARY

SHE IS THE MODEL SECRETARY THAT MANAGES SHUN'S HECTIC SCHEDULE. SHE WATCHES SHUN AND DAISUKE'S ARGUMENTS WITH AMUSEMENT.

HEAT GUY J
ヒートガイ ジェイ

Welcome to JEWDE!!

THIS IS JEWDE! WE'LL GUIDE YOU TO THE FAMOUS PLACES, FAMOUS STORES, AND EVEN, JUST FOR YOU, INSIDE THE SPECIAL SERVICE OFFICE, WHERE NORMAL EVERYDAY PEOPLE CAN'T GO.

INSIDE THE SPECIAL SERVICE

OFFICE (EXTERIOR)

THE SPECIAL SERVICE'S OFFICE IS INSIDE THIS BUILDING!!

THIS IS HOW THE OFFICE LOOKS!!

OFFICE (INTERIOR)

A CUT-AWAY VIEW OF INSIDE THE OFFICE, IT'S SURPRISINGLY SPACIOUS.

J'S DESK

DAISUKE'S DESK

KYOKO'S DESK

THOUGH DAISUKE HAS A DESK, HE'S NEVER THERE

DAISUKE'S DESK

ON THE DESK IS A PHONE, MONITORS, AND A PICTURE FRAME

KYOKO'S DESK

THE SPECIAL SERVICE'S PISTOLS ARE KEPT IN THIS SAFE.

SAFE

THIS IS THE SOFA WHERE DAISUKE SPENDS MOST OF HIS TIME.

SOFA

WITH THESE MONITORS, SHE PERFORMS HER DUTIES AS A SPECIAL SERVICES AUDITOR A.K.A. ACCOUNTANT A.K.A. ODD JOBS

THE MONITORS ON TOP OF KYOKO'S DESK

DAISUKE AURORA

THIS IS DAISUKE'S IDENTIFICATION AS A STAFF MEMBER OF THE SPECIAL SERVICE

ID CARD

THE CITY OF JEWDE

SURROUNDING MID AREA IS WEST AREA, EAST AREA, NORTH AREA AND SOUTH AREA. IN THESE AREAS, PARTICULARLY THE SLUMS OF WEST AREA (ALIAS "BAY AREA") WHERE THE REFUGEES GATHER, THE CRIME RATE IS HIGH

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF JEWDE

SURROUNDED BY THE SEA, JEWDE IS A GIGANTIC ARTIFICIAL CITY WITH A DIAMETER OF 30 KM THAT WAS CONSTRUCTED ON TOP OF SPECIAL MATERIAL SPREAD ACROSS THE OCEAN.

JEWDE CONSISTS OF SUPER SKYSCRAPERS. THE CENTER IS CALLED "MID AREA" AND THE SURROUNDING AREA IS A DISTRICT OF LUXURY MANSIONS.

THE MAIN SOURCE OF DAISUKE'S INFORMATION! SHOGUN'S STORE, "EAST WIND."

EAST WIND IS THE DOWN-TOWN'S CHINESE DISTRICT. YOU MUST NOT THINK OF IT AS JUST AN ORDINARY DRY GOODS STORE.

IT IS IN THIS BASEMENT THAT THE BIG GUYS OF THE BLACK-MARKET GATHER TO HOLD SECRET NEGOTIATIONS.

DAISUKE'S ROOM IS ON THE UPPER FLOORS OF A HUGE APARTMENT BUILDING.

A TIDY, SPACIOUS LIVING ROOM, WITH A BEDROOM ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DOOR.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!! DAISUKE'S APARTMENT

THE BUILDING FOR JEWDE'S GIGANTIC ORGANIZATION, VITA; THE ENORMOUS TOWER WHERE THE VAMPIRE LIVES AND WORKS.

VITA'S MAIN OFFICE BUILDING

CROSS THESE GATES, AND IT'S KABUKI ROAD, WHERE EVERYONE HEATS UP!

THE CITY'S MAIN STREET KABUKI ROAD

"ROSA ROSA" WHERE THE THREE GIRLS WORK; THOSE UNDER 18 CAN'T ENTER THE STORE!

THE THREE GIRLS' STORE

KAZUKI AKANE

DIRECTOR OF THE HEAT GUY J ANIME

LET'S TALK ABOUT THE APPEAL OF "HEAT GUY J." FIRST OFF, HOW DO YOU FEEL HAVING CREATED THIS KIND OF STYLIZED DRAMA?

THE POPULARITY OF DAISUKE, THE MAIN CHARACTER, HAS GRADUALLY BECOME APPARENT. IN THE BEGINNING, THE RESPONSE TO HIM WAS RATHER WEAK (LAUGHS), BUT THE BOYS HAVE FINALLY STARTED TO RESPOND AS WELL. EVEN SO, THERE ARE STILL MORE FEMALE FANS. THAT'S WHY I FEEL THAT I'D LIKE THE MEN TO WATCH IT A LITTLE MORE, TOO (LAUGHS).

SO DAISUKE IS INDEED QUITE THE LADIES MAN. THE THREE GIRLS ON KABUKI ROAD ARE ALWAYS TALKING TO HIM IN THE SERIES, TOO.

IN A SENSE, DAISUKE'S TOO POPULAR (LAUGHS). HE'S ABLE TO TALK WITH ANY WOMAN IN A COOL, NATURAL WAY. HOW WILL DAISUKE DECIDE EVER FIND "THE ONE" THAT WAY? THERE WAS A PART OF ME THAT WANTED PEOPLE TO HAVE FUN WATCHING THIS AS PART OF THE DRAMA, AS WELL.

J IS THERE BECAUSE OF DAISUKE AURORA, ISN'T HE? CARE TO ELABORATE?

WITH HEROES, THE MAIN CHARACTER'S PERSONALITY IS USUALLY VERY CLEAR. IT'S EITHER A HOT-BLOODED GUY OR A COOL GUY--THAT KIND OF THING. IF HE'S GOT A WEAK SIDE, THEN HE'S GOT A MEAN SIDE, TOO. MAYBE HE'S GOT FEELINGS HE HAS HIDDEN INSIDE. I WANTED TO MAKE DAISUKE THAT TYPE OF MULTI-DIMENSIONAL CHARACTER. NOT THAT I'D PUSH IT ON THEM LIKE, "THIS CHARACTER IS LIKE THIS," BUT MAYBE A CHARACTER WHERE THE VIEWERS COULD THINK, "THAT PART'S LIKE ME," AND WOULD BRING OUT MORE EMOTIONS. THAT'S WHAT I HOPED FOR, YOU KNOW.

IT'S BECAUSE DAISUKE IS MULTI-DIMENSIONAL CHARACTER THAT HE AND J CLICKED, RIGHT?

DAISUKE IS THE SORT OF GUY WHO, WITH RESPECT TO ANYONE, CAN UNDERSTAND THE OTHER PERSON'S PERSONAL SIDE. THAT'S WHY EVEN IF THE OTHER PERSON BETRAYS HIM, HIS ATTITUDE IS, "THEY MUST HAVE HAD THEIR REASONS, SO IT CAN'T BE HELPED." (LAUGHS). I THINK THAT IT'S BECAUSE OF DAISUKE'S OUTLOOK THAT, EVEN WHEN HE MET J, HE MUST HAVE FOUND SOME KIND OF PERSONAL SIDE TO THAT MACHINE. IF I WERE TO PUT IT A DIFFERENT WAY, "AS LONG AS ONE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND SOMEONE ELSE, ONE CANNOT UNDERSTAND ONESELF ")IT'S BEEN BEATEN INTO HIM FROM SOME KIND OF CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCE OR SOMETHING. THEN IF DAISUKE BECOMES THAT KIND OF PERSON, THEN MAYBE THE WORLD WOULD CHANGE. THERE IS ALSO THAT FEELING INSIDE OF ME

CLAIR--DAISUKE'S DARK RIVAL--IS TRULY HIS OPPOSITE, ISN'T HE?

BECAUSE CLAIR LEONELLI CANNOT UNDERSTAND OTHER PEOPLE, HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND HIMSELF, EITHER. BECAUSE HE MEETS DAISUKE, HE GRADUALLY BECOMES A PERSON WHO CAN UNDERSTAND OTHERS. THAT'S WHY DAISUKE AND CLAIR ARE TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN. THEY BOTH HAVE THE STRONG DESIRE TO LIVE AND TO LIVE ON THEIR OWN STRENGTHS, BUT BECAUSE THEY WERE RAISED DIFFERENTLY, OR SHOULD I SAY THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES ARE DIFFERENT, THEY DRIFTED IN THE DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS OF LIGHT AND SHADOW. THAT'S WHY THE TWO OF THEM MUST CONFRONT EACH OTHER.

REGARDING THE CHARACTERS, DID YOU FIND THOSE CREATED BY NOBUTERU YUKI (WITH WHOM YOU FORMED A FAMOUS COMBINATION ON "ESCAFLOWNE") TO BE APPEALING?

ABSOLUTELY. THE CHARACTERS MR. YUKI CREATES HAVE A UNIQUE ATTRACTION TO THEM. I FIND HIS CHARACTERS SUIT ME WELL AS A DIRECTOR. MR. YUKI IS A PERSON WHO UNDERSTANDS THE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF MY DIRECTION. YOU COULD SAFELY SAY THAT THE DEGREE OF TRUST BETWEEN US IS HIGH. I CONSULT WITH HIM ON VARIOUS THINGS. LIKE WHEN PEOPLE SAY TO ME, "MR. AKANE, THAT'S A BIT TOO DIFFICULT AND IT CAN'T BE UNDERSTOOD!" AND "NO ONE WILL GET EXCITED OVER SOMETHING LIKE THAT!" (LAUGHS). WHEN CREATING CHARACTERS, I CONVEY WHAT I WANT IN WORDS--BUT SINCE I WANT TO VALUE YUKI'S FLASHES OF INSPIRATION, TOO, I DON'T USUALLY SAY, "TAKE IT IN THIS DIRECTION." OFTEN THE IMAGES COME OUT LIKE, "POW!" FROM UNIMAGINABLE PLACES. THAT'S WHY I TRY TO BE VAGUE AND SAY "PLEASE."

MR. YUKI'S CHARACTER DESIGN FOR BOMA

AKANE KAZUKI

BORN IN 1962 IN THE NARA PREFECTURE, HE STOPPED PRODUCING WORKS FOR TV AND MADE HIS MOVIE DEBUT AS A DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT FOR "KIDOU SENSHI GUNDAM F" (1990). AFTER THAT, HE BECAME A FREELANCER AND GAINED NOTICE AS THE DIRECTOR FOR HIS NEXT TV SERIES "TENKUU NO ESCAFLOWNE" (1996). THERE IS CURRENTLY MUCH ANTICIPATION REGARDING HIS NEXT PROJECT

characters that are complicated. In that sense, I liked parts of episode 11, too. It seems any man would have a little of that kind of awkwardness ..but the young men of today might not quite get it (laughs).

"If your program is ever rewritten or corrupted... I will, at that time, take this gun and destroy you!"

Episode 1 reveals the subtle relationship between Daisuke and J.

"Kyoko is representative of the average person."

We've continued to talk about men, so please tell us about the heroines. Who is your favorite female character?

It's Kyoko (laughs). She is representative of the average person and, in short, she's an average girl. Kyoko once lived a normal life, but since coming to the Special Service, that began to change. Because it's a drama about men, she is a conservative person. Well, I myself don't like pushy women, so it might be because of that, too (laughs).

Speaking of the relationship setween the nero and the heroine, now did the relationsnip between Daisuke and Kyoko develop?

That area should have really been brought out more strongly, but there wasn't an opportunity like that (laughs). For the time seing, our goal was that maybe the two of them could be an item. But secause they have different personalities, they could complement each other (laughs). Either way, there's just men and women in the world, so even though it's a drama about men, I wanted women to get entangled with it and complete the story.

Kyoko once lived a normal life, but after coming to the Special Service, that began to change.

Granted, you're still in tne miodle the series, sut any last thoughts?

It looks good. After all, it's fun doing this job. The voice actors have created the characters, too, and ask things like, "J would do it this way, right?" To me, that sort of thing makes me really happy.

Thank you very much.

How did you create J's personality?

In an age like today where men are said to be weak, it might be interesting to put out a character, like the ones in "Kyojin no Hoshi" who wouldn't be embarrassed. (laughs). Saying things like, "A man is," and other lines that would embarrass a flesh-and-blood man; it's okay if an anoroid says them. After all, it's a program so... that kind of thing is okay (laughs). It's just that since J is a robot, changes don't work. Having been created sy Antonia, and by taking action together with Daisuke, data accumulates and his own identity is created. That's why when J breaks, even if the data is moved into another body, it won't be J. Like humans, machines should have personalized traits--and that's why Daisuke doesn't see J as a robot.

"Saying things like, "A man is," and other lines that would embarrass a flesh-and-blood man; it's okay if an anoroid says them."

In addition to the numanistic appeal, J also has intense appeal as a mecha, doesn't he?

You could call it a presence, but J was created to look good just standing there. I didn't want to have J be just a super robot, so he is a "man" who fights with his fists! Projectiles and the like are probably cowardly (laughs). Really, you know, it could se called dynamism; I wanted people to look at that kind of thing. I designed it thinking it'd feel quite good...or be quite a catharsis if they would see it that way. But in reality, I really like director Akira Kurosawa's "Youjimbou" and that "while cool, he's hot" idea. That's why there was a part of me that wanted to express just a little of that with J.

As of now, the climax has not yet aired. But from those already broadcast, which are your favorite episodes?

When you talk about things I like, then there are some in every episode. But episode one sticks out. I was so tense, I nearly had a heart attack? (laughs) When it was completed, even I felt a strong response and thought, "Ah, this'll work."
After that, if we talk about tension, episode number four (where Boma first appears) was like that, too. After all, as a character, he's a kind of seast, too (laughs). Like...how much of Boma's presence could I bring out with that? Though personally, I like

CHIAKI OGISHIMA, KAZUKI AKANE, NOBUTERU YUKI & SATELIGHT

Anime director Kazuki Akane—famed for his work on *Escaflowne* and *Gundam 0083*—and animation studio Satelight wrote the *Heat Guy J* story. Lending her artistic talent to the project is illustrator Chiaki Ogishima, known for other works in *Magazine Z* such as *Chou-Seikenki Mikazuchi-den*. Well-known for creating character designs for both games like *Chrono Cross* and anime like *Escaflowne*, Nobuteru Yuki provides the *Heat Guy J* character designs.

STOP!

This is the back of the book. You wouldn't want to spoil a great ending!

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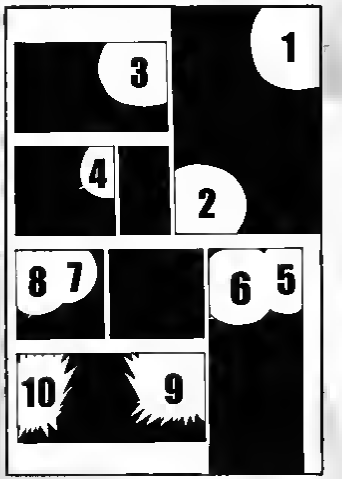

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